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KOREAN RESIDENTS TALKS FAIL TO YIELD AGREEMENT

OW140855 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec 14 KYODO -- Japan and South Korea have failed to reach agreement during two days of talks in Tokyo on the legal status of future generations of Korean residents of Japan, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday. They said South Korea sought a guarantee of fair treatment and permanent resident status, if they so desire; for Korean residents and their descendants in Japan during the two-day meeting Friday and Saturday.

Although the talks were a preliminary session for formal talks on the status of third and younger generations of Korean residents in Japan, the discussions ranged from discrimination against Korean resident in schools and jobs to the potential impact the issue could have on overall Japan-South Korea relations.

Under a 1965 accord, the two countries are to hold negotiations at an unspecified future date on the status of third and further generations of Korean residents. Japan colonized Korea from 1910 to 1945 and brought a number of Koreans to Japan to do forced labor.

Against this historical background, South Korea is urging Japan to treat its Korean residents -- totalling about 700,000 -- like ordinary Japanese by upgrading their status and improving special welfare and educational programs for them, officials said. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said South Korea called on Japan to establish special curriculums for Korean children at Japanese schools to help them maintain their cultural heritage.

The South Korea delegation, led by Soh Byung Yong, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, also called for abolition of a deportation system for Korean residents of Japan convicted of crimes the official said. The Seoul Government has refused for the last four year to accept Japan-born Korean deportees despite the deportation system set up under the 1965 Japan-South Korea agreement, citing the historical background and discrimination which it argues have produced such criminals.

The two-day meeting did not take up the fingerprinting requirements for Korean residents in Japan because the issue has been under discussion between the two countries in different forms.

Hiroshi Fukuda, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, headed the Japanese side in the talks.

South Korea's keen interest in the legal status in Japan of descendants of Korean residents here stems in part from a growing tendency among postwar generations to favor intermarriage with Japanese, a Japanese official said. Of an estimated 114,000 Korean students and pupils in Japan, the official also noted, only 18 percent are attending Korean schools and the rest are going to Japanese schools.

THE KOREA HERALD Report

SK150015 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP) -- Korean and Japanese officials wound up two days of talks on the status of descendants to Korean residents in Japan Saturday with an agreement to hold a second round of the talks in Seoul next year.

During the talks, Korean officials urged Japan to grant "third-generation" Koreans the legal status equal to that of Japanese nationals in consideration of the historical background. Under a Japan-Korea agreement on residence status, which went into effect in 1966, children of Korean residents in Japan are guaranteed permanent residence rights and may be naturalized if they desire. But third-generation Koreans, defined as those who were born here after 1970, are not included under the agreement and their status must be decided by 1991.

The Korean negotiators demanded that the Korean descendants be allowed to decide their own nationality and that they not be treated as foreign residents. They also called for the abolishment of the compulsory removal system, which applies to Korean residents in general. A Korean resident who receives a sentence of seven years or more for committing a crime in Japan must leave the country.

The Japanese delegation reportedly showed a favorable reaction to the Korean demands. The Japanese said that detailed, official measures will be put forward in the next meeting, after consultations among related ministries.

So Pyong-yong, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, led the 11-member Korean delegation at the meeting. His counterpart at the Japanese Foreign Ministry, Hiroshi Fukuda, headed the 10-member Japanese delegation.

U.S. LEATHER TALKS FAIL AGAIN IN GENEVA

OW140349 Tokyo KYODO in English 0218 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Geneva, Dec. 13 KYODO -- Japan and the United States Friday failed again to reach agreement on Japan's import restrictions on leather and leather footwear, conference sources said. The meeting was held under Article 28 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

At a GATT council ministers' session in Geneva in May last year, the 90-nation body decided that Japanese leather import restrictions are in violation of the GATT article. Based on the GATT decision, Japan offered to remove its import quota system on leather and leather footwear and shift to a tariff quota system under which Japan would impose lower tariffs up to a certain volume of leather goods and apply higher tariffs on imports in excess of the limit. The latest talks were part of consultations with trading partners to compensate for the tariff hikes which would be involved with lower tariffs on other goods.

Japan and the United States failed to reach an agreement on the matter at talks in Washington which ended December 3. GATT sources said that there is no legal connection between the Geneva talks and those held in Washington. No details of the latest talks have been disclosed, but conference sources said that the United States again expressed its dissatisfaction with the Japanese proposal. Japan and the 10-nation European Community (EC) held similar talks in Brussels on December 5 but those also ended in rupture.

EXPORT RESTRAINT TO EUROPE TO BE CONTINUED

OW140355 Tokyo KYODO in English 0320 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 14 KYODO -- The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Saturday announced that it will monitor Japanese shipments of videotape recorders and six other products to European Community (EC) nations in 1986 to stem any sudden and sharp rise in exports of these items.

The six other items are color television sets, color TV tubes, automobiles, light commercial vehicles, forklift trucks and numerically-controlled machining centers, MITI officials said.

The officials said MITI will monitor the export volume of these products and, if necessary, their export prices as well, throughout next year. If any of the items show a sudden and sharp increase, MITI will consult with the EC Commission and take measures to curb exports if necessary, they said. The officials said the monitoring system is tantamount to a continuation of voluntary export restraints Japan has been exercising vis-a-vis the EC nations.

Noting that the EC is particularly concerned over videotape recorders, the officials said MITI will monitor their shipments, "bearing in mind that 1.5 to 1.7 million sets is the appropriate shipment volume for next year."

Japan has been voluntarily curbing VTR exports to the EC nations under a three-year agreement with the EC Commission, which is due to expire at the end of this year. The agreement allows Japanese makers to export up to 2.25 million sets in 1985. However, actual shipments this year will total only about 1.8 million, the officials said, due to such factors as a slump in demand in the EC nations and expanded VTR production in the EC by both Japanese and European manufacturers. Under such circumstances, it is now extremely difficult to set an accurate demand estimate and thus, MITI is switching from self restraint to the monitoring system.

The officials said the EC Commission has decided to raise the import tariff on Japanese-made VTRs to 14 percent from 8 percent, effective January 1. EC foreign ministers are expected to authorize the tariff hike when they meet Monday and Tuesday, they added.

Japan has also been voluntarily curbing exports of quartz watches to the EC nations but this item will not be covered by the monitoring system, the officials said.

Meanwhile, related Japanese industries reacted calmly to the MITI decision. Officials of Toshiba Corp. said the decision will not have a big impact, because Japanese exports of the seven items are already being subjected to voluntary controls in some form or another. The monitoring system may even stem protectionist moves, such as filing of antidumping charges against Japanese products, in the EC nations. The related industries are agreed in the view that it is difficult for them to export their products to the EC countries beyond present levels and therefore, they are preparing to expand production in the countries, industry sources said.

DIET EXTENDS EXTRAORDINARY SESSION FOR 1 WEEK

OW131019 Tokyo KYODO in English 1005 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO -- The Diet Friday voted to extend the current extraordinary session for seven days. It is due to close on Saturday next week. The extension, proposed by the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP), is primarily to enable the Lower House to work out a compromise solution on a Lower House seat redistribution plan, political sources said. Stiff dissent from the opposition has held up the LDP-proposed "six-six" bill aimed at removing six seats from rural areas to big cities.

Acting on an LDP request, Lower House Speaker Michita Sakata has sought to break the deadlock through mediation between the ruling and opposition parties.

The LDP leadership is committed to changing Diet seat distribution during the current Diet session. The party has put forward the reapportionment plan as a result of a Supreme Court ruling in July which said the imbalance in the distribution of seats between some rural and urban areas should be rectified.

The ordinary Diet session will begin on December 24 after the Diet takes a three-day recess, and the focus of Diet business will then be shifted to deliberation of the government budget for fiscal 1986.

LDP WORKS OUT FISCAL 1986 TAX REVISION PLAN

OW160121 Tokyo KYODO in English 0016 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 16 KYODO -- An outline tax revision plan for fiscal 1986 starting in April next year has been produced which includes the first ever tax cut on public housing loans, according to tax planners of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP). It contains a 50 billion yen tax cut for individual taxpayers and a 250 billion yen hike for corporations. The LDP Tax System Council, headed by Mutsuki Kato, reached broad agreement on the tax revision plan Sunday with the aim of submitting recommendations to the government Tuesday.

The plan, which is yet to be finalized, would include a three-year tax credit for new homeowners who have obtained housing loans from the government's Housing Loan Corporation. This is to help facilitate housing construction -- a pillar of Japan's pump-priming measures for fiscal 1986. New homeowners are currently accorded a three-year tax credit for their housing loans from banks and other private financial institutions. However, only those earning less than 10 million yen a year would be eligible for both tax cuts, while those earning less than 8 million yen qualify under the present system.

The plan would entail a 30 billion yen tax cut in the initial year and 90 billion yen a year in subsequent years, LDP officials said. In addition, it would raise the minimum taxable income of an average wage-earning household (a husband, a wife and two children) from the present 2,021,000 yen to 2,135,000 yen.

Meanwhile, the Finance Ministry has outlined a national budgetary plan for fiscal 1986, with the general account budget to be fixed at about 54.1 trillion yen, up 3.0 percent from fiscal 1985. General account expenditures -- total expenditures minus debt-servicing costs and tax revenue allocated to local governments -- will be about 32.58 trillion yen in fiscal 1986, down slightly from the original fiscal 1985 budget for the fourth straight annual decrease due to tight fiscal conditions, ministry officials said. The ministry is expected to complete the compilation of its draft budget by the end of this year.

The austere budget plan is in line with a government policy of rebuilding deficit-ridden national finances. Budgetary requests submitted to the ministry in August by all government ministries and agencies amounted to about 56.3 trillion yen, some 7.3 percent bigger than the current state budget. The projected decline in national revenue by about one trillion yen, compared with the ministry's initial expectation of 41.29 trillion yen under its midterm outlook, will oblige the government to issue 11.2 trillion yen in government bonds during the next fiscal year, down 4.1 percent from the current year, the officials said.

KANG SONG-SAN TO VISIT USSR 'LATE DECEMBER'

SK142332 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] On a visit to the USSR by the premier of the State Administration Council: At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the State Administration Council, is to make an official friendly visit to the USSR in late December.

CHONGNYON OFFICIAL LEAVES PYONGYANG FOR JAPAN

SK131102 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 13 (KCNA) -- Pak Chae-no, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), who had attended the 10th round of the North-South Red Cross talks as an advisory member of our side left Pyongyang on December 13 by plane. He was seen off at the airport by Son Song-pil, Kim Chu-yong and other officials concerned. The press corps of Chongnyon also left here today by the same plane.

SOUTH APPROACH TOWARD DIALOGUE ASSAILED

SK140220 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0835 GMT 11 Dec 85

[Unattributed talk: "The South Korean Puppets' Invariably Unjust Approach to Dialogue"]

[Text] Talks in various forms, including the North-South Red Cross talks, the North-South economic talks, and preliminary contacts for the North-South parliamentary talks, are being conducted between the North and South. Although a long period of time has passed since such talks began, no tangible advancement has been made in these talks, from the perspective of the expectations and hope of the entire people in the country. The South Korean puppets' unjust approach to the talks is to blame across the board.

The 10th round of the North-South Red Cross talks, held recently in Seoul, came to an end without reaching any agreement; the fifth round of the North-South economic talks, held prior to the Red Cross talks, also came to an end without any agreement on issues proposed by us, with the discussion of these issues thus being postponed; and the North-South parliamentary talks have not yet been held -- all because of the deliberate maneuvers of the South Korean puppets to ruin the talks.

In fact, the South Korean puppets, although they were forced to come to the plaza of by our strong call, did not find the talks palatable from the beginning, and instead maneuvered, quite maliciously, to disrupt dialogue.

As is well known, from the day the country was divided, our party and the government of the republic have put forth a series of practical proposals designed to restore the ties between the North and South and have made efforts to realize them. In particular in accordance with the comprehensive guidelines for negotiations freshly laid down by the great leader on 6 August 1971, the North and South, which had remained isolated for a long time, began to contact each other at long last. As a result, the North-South political talks were arranged and the 4 July North-South Joint Statement, with the three principles -- independence, peaceful reunification, and great national harmony -- for national reunification was announced. In addition, North-South Red Cross talks were held, beginning in August 1972.

The Red Cross talks, however, were suspended after the seventh round because of the puppets' maneuvers designed to disrupt the talks. The South Korean puppets did not respond to our proposal put forward at the first round, and have mounted vicious slanderous propaganda smearing us and war maneuvers behind the talks. Not only has South Korea had the agents of the Central Intelligence Agency [as heard] meddle in the noble humanitarian affairs of the Red Cross by making them dedicate themselves to political tricks, but they also created a murderous terror-stricken atmosphere in South Korea by subjecting the South Korean people to barbarous suppression.

The went so far as to stage a so-called seminar on separated families in foreign countries and hatch other similar brazen-faced plot. Because of the deliberate maneuvers of the South Korean puppets to ruin the North-South Red Cross talks, the North-South Red Cross talks came to a deadlock after the seventh round. Afterward, thanks to our strong call at Red Cross working-level talks for the resumption of the full-fledged round of talks, these talks began to be held at Panmunjom from 10 July 1974. Nearly 20 rounds of Red Cross working-level talks were conducted for several years, since 10 July 1974. However, these talks came to an end without producing any success because of their breach of faith.

Even during the period when the Red Cross working-level meetings for the resumption of the full-dress round of talks were in progress, the South Korean puppets preposterously provoked us by coming up with an assassination incident, which was their own internal incident, and viciously conducted anticommunist propaganda and a slanderous stratagem.

At the same time, they also blurred the atmosphere of the talks by repeatedly staging large-scale war exercises against us. In the ensuing days, we have repeatedly put forward reasonable proposals to turn talks between the North and South into genuine talks for reunification. In particular, in the wake of our compatriotic relief measure for the South Korean flood victims, taken last autumn, an atmosphere of contact and dialogue came alive between the North and South and the door to the wall that had kept the two sides isolated was thrown open once again.

Thanks to our proposal, the North-South economic talks were held for the first time and preliminary contacts between delegations of the North and South Red Cross organizations for the full-fledged round of North-South Red Cross talks were also held. The South Korean puppets, however, generated the Panmunjom shooting incident together with the U.S. imperialists with a view to disrupting the talks. Again, they caused the talks that had been arranged after twists and turns to drag on by staging "Team Spirit" joint military exercises at the beginning of the year. Even at the time when we put forward a new peace proposal for holding North-South parliamentary talks on 9 April and again at the time when the North-South economic talks and the North-South Red Cross talks were resumed toward the end of last May, the South Korean puppets run riot more viciously in order to drive the talks to a stalemate.

Not only were the South Korean puppets unwilling to accept our just proposals at the talks themselves, but they also unabashedly mounted slanderous propaganda against us. They also mounted anticommunist propaganda among the South Korean people more wickedly than at any time in the past, while barbarously suppressing the struggle of the South Korean youths, students, and people.

In the meantime, they blurred the atmosphere of dialogue by daily staging such big and small war exercises as "Myolgong-85" "Pakchwi-85," "Ttangpol," "Pangpae," "Ulchi-85," "Ssangyong-85," and "Pilsung-85" in the days that followed the "Team Spirit-85" joint military exercise. What is more, the South Korean puppets, while clinging to the two-faced tactic of dialogue on the one hand and confrontation on the other, are pursuing not one Korea, but two Koreas.

Instigated by the U.S. imperialists, they publicly babbled about the idea of having the North and South admitted to the United Nations simultaneously and of unilateral entry into the United Nations at the function held for the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, laying bare their nature as splittist for all to see.

Because of the South Korean puppets' deliberate maneuvers, the talks that have been arranged after twists and turns have failed to produce any advancement.

Facts clearly show that the main responsibility for the blocking of the talks lies with the South Korean puppets. The prospects for the talks depend on what attitude and stand the South Korean puppets will adopt regarding the talks.

If the South Korean puppets continue to lay artificial obstacles to the talks, running counter to the hope and aspirations of the entire people, they will have to take full responsibility for the consequences arising therefrom.

CHON TU-HWAN ATTEMPTS TO HOLD NO TAE-U IN CHECK

SK130918 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 12 Dec 85

[Text] It has been learned that Chon Tu-hwan has been strengthening his efforts to hold No Tae-u in check.

According to a well-informed source in political circles, because No Tae-u is an influential person who is fixing his eyes on the next presidency, Chon Tu-hwan is strengthening his efforts to hold him in check.

It is well known that Chon Tu-hwan is attempting to stay in power, longer by adopting as strong a suppressive policy, like Pak Chong-hui did in his time.

Motivated by such an objective, Chon Tu-hwan has replaced DJP floor leader Yi Chong-chan and secretary general Yi Han-tong, who pursued politics based on dialogue along with No Tae-u, with his own followers such as Chong Sun-tok and Yi Sei-ki respectively.

Chon Tu-hwan has also fired Kim Sok-hui, minister of justice, who opposed the hard-line policy, such as dispatching police forces onto campuses. It also has been learned that the government is now planning to dismantle the Ministry of Trade and Commerce because Minister of Trade and Industry Kum Chin-ho is a relative of No Tae-u.

To date economic policies have been enforced largely by Sin Pyong-hyon, deputy premier and minister of the Economic Planning Board, Sa Kong-il, senior secretary for economic affairs at Chongwadae, and Minister of Finance Kim Man-chae. However, Minister of Trade and Industry Kum Chin-ho, resisting this, has consulted with No Tae-u whenever problems have arisen and has been in opposition to them.

In this way Chon Tu-hwan is trying to find ways to stay in power longer through hard-line suppressive policies, as Pak Chong-hui did, and is strengthening attempts to hold No Tae-u, who has his eyes fixed on the next presidency, in check.

NEW ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF VOWS TO MAKE ARMY TIGHTY

SK160621 Seoul YONHAP in English 0611 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Seoul, Dec 16 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Gen Pak Hui-to, commander of South Korea's Third Army, Monday took office as Army chief of staff in a ceremony at the plaza of the Army headquarters here. Attending the ceremony were Defense Minister Yun Song-min, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Chong Chin-kwon, Chief of Naval Operations Choe Sang-hwa, Air Force Chief of Staff Kim In-ki, and other military and civilian guests.

Gen Pak replaces Gen Chong Ho-yong, who retired from the post after serving two years as the Army's chief commander. In the ceremony, Chong was decorated with the order of diplomatic service merit, the Kwanghwa Medal. In his inauguration speech, Pak said he would do his best to make the Army mighty enough to deter any surprise attacks from North Korea and to ensure final victory, under the presumption that North Korea will invade the South during his tenure. The 51-year-old general also said that his first move will be to equip all the servicemen, ranging from commanders to soldiers, with a fierce fighting spirit and a faith in certain victory, and that this will be possible only through intensive military drills. Pak, a native of Changnyong, South Kyongsang Province, served as a field commander after graduating from the Korea Military Academy in the 12th class in 1956. He also studied at the U.S. Special War School and at Yonsei University's Business School here.

SIX TRADE MISSIONS TO VISIT JAPAN IN 1986

SK140309 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Seoul, Dec 14 (OANA-YONHAP) -- South Korean economic and circles plan to send six trade missions to Japan next year, in an effort to rectify the trade imbalance between the two Northeast Asian countries, the Korea-Japan Economic Association (KJEA) reported Saturday.

Next May, the KJEA will send a 200-member trade mission representing all sectors of Korean business to major cities in Japan. The mission will work on ways to reduce Korea's growing deficit in its trade with Japan. In addition, the KJEA plans to send specific-item trade delegations, each comprising 15 to 20 persons, in mid-March, mid-April, early July and early September of next year. It also plans to send a 30-40 member delegation in November 1986.

The delegations will represent textiles, agricultural products and fisheries (March), consumer goods (April), consumer goods, agricultural products and fisheries (July), machinery and electricity (September), and consumer goods, textiles, agricultural products and fisheries (November), an official said. The missions will spend one or two weeks in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and other Japanese cities, where they will negotiate with Japanese businessmen and explore new markets by researching distribution structure in Japan.

DIPLOMACY TOWARD JAPAN TO FOCUS ON EXPORTS

SK140105 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] The government will give top priority in its diplomatic efforts toward Japan the promotion of exports to that country, Foreign Ministry officials said yesterday.

They said that the focus of diplomacy toward Japan was being shifted to economic affairs from the previous political issues in desperate efforts to curb the ever-mounting trade deficit with the neighboring country.

To back up the government's new policy, an export promotion team and an economic consultation committee have been formed at the Korean embassy in Tokyo, comprising officials and business people, they said. The two newly-born bodies will assist Korean exporters by offering information and by settling their grievances, while keeping close contacts with the home government, they said. According to them, officials specializing in economic affairs were assigned to all the 10 Korean consulates across Japan last month to supplement the embassy and the two organizations in their efforts to aid the exporters. The consulates will concentrate on expediting export rather than consular matters, especially seeking the cooperation of businessmen of Korean descent living in Japan.

Ministry officials said that the government's emphasis on export to Japan would be explained to Tokyo officials during the 18th bilateral trade talks opening in the Japanese capital Monday.

The Korean delegation to the two-day talks will demand Japanese cooperation to implement Seoul's new policy by opening more of its import markets, they said. The Korean delegation will be led by Kwon Byeong-hyun, director-general for Asian affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and will include three directors-general from other government offices.

The Japanese delegation will be led by Michihiko Kunihiro, director-general for economic affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and will be joined by similar-level officials from other ministries.

After the talks, Korean chief delegate Kwon, and Pak Un-so, director-general for trade promotion at the Trade-Industry Ministry, will discuss export promotion with Korean businessmen residing in Japan in a meeting in Osaka on Dec. 19.

Economic experts here said that Korea would suffer from a worsening trade deficit with Japan unless it makes some drastic export growth, as the Japanese yen is growing stronger against the U.S. dollar. Korean importers of Japanese goods have to pay some 27 percent more than they did in the past because of the yen's growth, they said. The experts forecast that Korea will have to diversify import sources if it fails to make outstanding headway into the Japanese market, in order to cope with the aggravated trade environment.

NKDP-JSP TALKS BREAK DOWN; JOINT SESSION STALLED

SK150022 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Negotiations between the major parties over two key political issues broke down yesterday, scuttling prospects for the joint resumption of the stalled regular National Assembly session. The floor leaders of the Democratic Justice Party and the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP] failed to iron out differences over the naming of a special committee and the disavowal of "politics outside the Assembly building."

The ruling DJP, accusing the opposition NKDP of intransigency in negotiation agreed on the resumption of the session tomorrow with the minor opposition Korea National Party. The DJP will hold a caucus of its lawmakers tomorrow to discuss ways to operate the remainder of the Assembly session.

The main opposition NKDP, reserving its original stand that it would return to the Assembly regardless of the outcome of the floor leaders' meeting, is poised to mount a hard-line policy. The party threatened to go ahead with the establishment of city and provincial chapters for mounting a signature-collection drive to push constitutional amendments efforts. It will hold an expanded executive meeting today and a party lawmakers' caucus tomorrow to decide on the strategy concerning the constitutional amendment efforts.

After the failure in the floor leaders' meeting, DJP chairman No Tae-u and KNP president Yi Man-sop agreed to reopen the stalemated session tomorrow. In the meeting, the two party leaders shared the view that all the matters concerning the Constitution should be handled in the forum of the Assembly. They also agreed to form a special committee on constitutional research, on condition that the opposition NKDP participate.

The two political leaders agreed, in principle, that a partial revision of the Tax Exemption and Reduction Law might be considered next year when amendments are proposed by opposition parties. Pending the progress of further meetings between floor leaders of the two major parties, the domestic political situation is likely to remain seriously strained.

The session, which has been stalled since the passage of the budget and tax bills Dec. 2, ends Wednesday.

In yesterday's meeting of floor leaders, Yi Se-ki of the DJP said that a "constitutional research committee may be formed before the end of this year, if the NKDP meets two conditions." One of the conditions was that the main opposition party should give written assurances that it would renounce extra-Assembly politics. The other condition was that the proposed committee should be dubbed a constitutional research committee.

Kim Tong-yong of the main opposition party, however, rejected the ruling party's preconditions for the establishment of the ad hoc committee. Kim made it clear that the opposition party would have no choice but to resort to an "aggressive method of struggle" unless the ruling party showed a change of attitude.

Following the collapse of the floor leaders' negotiations, the ruling party held an emergency meeting of its ranking officials to discuss possible options for handling the situation.

NKDP President, No Compromise

SK150025 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 Dec 85 p 4

[From the column "Press Pocket"]

[Text] After hearing about the results of the failed floor leaders meeting yesterday, NDP [New Korea Democratic Party] president Yi Min-u said firmly that "there is no possibility of compromise with the DJP." He seemed to feel deeply frustrated as the last efforts for the normalization of the stalled regular House session were shattered in the rival whips' meeting.

He noted, "What the ruling DJP thinks is not the only choice for the interest of the nation. The stalemated politics would have been tackled if they (the DJP) really considered national interest." He went on, "In a sense, I feel no regret over the results." But it was apparent that he was trying hard to look composed.

Floor leader Kim Tong-yong also said that there is no need to meet his DJP counterpart Yi se-Ki unless the ruling party changes its position concerning the establishment of an ad hoc committee for the constitutional revision which was demanded by his party. "Things went as far as they can go. Let's forget it," he said in a frustrated mood.

NEGOTIATORS IN TRADE TALKS WITH U.S. CRITICIZED

SK140732 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 13 Dec 85 p 6

[Article by reporter Kwon Sun-chik: "The Particulars of the Korea-U.S. Trade Negotiations in Seoul"]

[Excerpts] The Korea-U.S. trade negotiations, held in Seoul from 9 to 12 December, made considerable progress on such issues as insurance, trademarks, and copyrights. However, the trade talks left the issues of chemical substance patents and software partially unresolved.

High-ranking negotiators from the Korean side repeatedly stressed that the negotiations had come to a halt or that they had broken down. These officials, however, did not show any sign of distress on their faces over the outcome of the negotiations. Their attitude leads us to believe that they may have narrowed the gap regarding some issues through the just-concluded talks, sufficient to be confident of a package settlement in the next round of talks, or that they had expected a halt or breakdown in the negotiations in advance.

Whatever the reason, what characterized the current round of negotiations is that the two countries have agreed to settle the issues before the end of the year; that the focus of the negotiations is how many concessions our side will make to the demands of the United States; and that the just-concluded negotiations were conducted behind closed doors with the U.S. side playing the leading role.

The U.S. Administration is in a position to pry some symbolic concessions from the Korean side in order to veto protectionist legislation by the U.S. Congress. Only by Korea meeting its demands for the opening of insurance markets and protection of chemical substance patents, which had been chosen as test cases regarding such issues, can the U.S. Administration placate Congress and apply the same pressure on some other countries.

In the meantime, the Korean side is hoping to have all issues settled at an early date, so that settlement of issues before Christmas will be a present to U.S. President Reagan and therefore this can head off further pressure on Korea. The Korean side needs an early settlement, before the end of the year if possible, because the U.S. pressure on Korea seems to be growing in the number of conditions with each passing day; the longer the settlement of pending issues drags on, the larger the number will snowball.

It is hard to define the just-concluded negotiations as give-and-take negotiations, as in other cases. What is so special about the ongoing negotiations is that the United States unilaterally demands this and that from Korea, and Korea is merely struggling to delay the opening up of its markets as long as possible.

"Keeping the \$10 billion U.S. market open is what we must win by settling trade issues quietly," stated Deputy Premier Sin Pyong-hyon. Our position regarding the trade negotiations is not so much what we can demand from the United States as what we must defend against U.S. demands by arguing that certain things we can concede, but we also have to wait until such time that we can confidently concede other things to the United States.

Under such circumstances, the 4-day negotiations were conducted according to the United States wishes and the Korean side showed an undesirable attitude of allowing itself to be dragged by the United States.

Some critics say there has to be some strategy in defending the interests of the Korean side, and that Korean negotiators should have been more dignified in their posture against the United States.

At the end of the two sessions held on 10 December, the two sides laid out their respective positions in full view. The U.S. side reportedly strongly demanded that Korea open its market across the board, and without delay, including insurance and intellectual property rights. The U.S. negotiators went so far as to demand that Korea open up its markets to workmen's accident compensation insurance and medical insurance, which fall in the category of public welfare in this country, and that the films, videotapes, and records -- items that have already been negotiated -- be included within intellectual property rights.

Although it is a little too harsh to describe the just-concluded talks as subordinate ones, they were nevertheless handled in a way that the United States wished them to be. The only positive aspect about the negotiations is that our side showed signs of determination to stand up to the U.S. side on such decisive issues as software and chemical substance patents. However, the negotiators of our side kept the process of negotiations and the substance of discussions a complete secret on the grounds that the U.S. side wanted it that way, and if the process of negotiations were made public, it would have rubbed the raw nerves of the U.S. negotiators and therefore would have been disadvantageous to our side in the negotiations. They even prevented photographers from taking pictures of the opening session.

Instead of making efforts to let the people know that is going on concerning the paramount issues of the country and trying to persuade them, the negotiators from our side provoked criticism that they tried to read the minds of the U.S. negotiators throughout the negotiations, while taking a low posture.

Some people even went to the point of describing them as having tried to sow confusion about the outcome of the negotiations by arguing that they had broken down or were halted after reaching a general agreement, or as having tried to convince the people that the concessions our side made to the United States were inevitable by describing the negotiations as a hard fight.

What will become of the unsettled issues in the next round of talks, scheduled for mid-December in Washington, remains to be seen. However, the government will find it difficult to avoid public criticism that it is handling trade issues, which have a great impact on the national economy, without shoring up broad support from the people.

CHOSON ILBO Editorial

SK140753 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Dec 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Conclusion of Negotiations for Concessions -- The Course of Events in the Korea-U.S. Working-Level Trade Talks"]

[Text] The Korean side gained nothing in the Korea-U.S. negotiations which were conducted for 4 days, beginning on 9 December. Indeed, the conference itself was held at the request of the U.S. side to further its own interests. Our side could not but take a passive attitude. Though our side could not but take a passive attitude, it had better face up to the meeting after drawing a certain line for concessions for the sake of national interests. When we observe the result of the conference, which ended yesterday, we cannot but think that we are only losing a game by obeying the U.S. side's coercive demands.

It is said that such a result was brought about because of the hard-pressed deadline. In an effort to overcome protectionist legislation in Congress, the U.S. Administration is seeking a protectionist policy -- in a sense, a protectionist policy more oppressive than that of Congress -- and, as part of seeking its protectionist policy, is applying pressure on its trading partners to make them open their markets. This is true with the application of Article 301 of the U.S. Commerce Law, which provided grounds for the recent Korea-U.S. trade negotiations, and it seems that President Reagan thinks that the swift conclusion of these negotiations on Article 301 of the Commerce Law because they believe a swift conclusion is mutually beneficial.

The fact that both sides are accelerating the conclusion of the negotiations is one thing, but another is the fact that in order to realize a swift conclusion, Korea can not but make vital concessions. If the two sides were pressed for time, the U.S. side could also make major concessions. Why is it that only Korea has to make concessions? We think that it is necessary to seriously discuss the notion that the conclusion on Article 301 of the Commerce Law -- the topic in question -- is advantageous to Korea. Why is our country the only one to be practically subjected to the application of Article 301 of the Commerce Law? It is not so clear that opening our insurance markets and protecting intellectual property rights are, on a long-term basis, more advantageous than restrictions which will be imposed on our exports of textile products to the United States when the Thurmond bill is approved.

It is said that the two sides reached satisfactory agreement on the protection of copyrights and the issue of trademarks in the recent round of Korea-U.S. trade negotiations because of our side's concessions. They also reached an agreement on software because of our side's concession. As for the insurance sector, our side agreed to allow two U.S. non-life insurance firms to participate in the fire insurance pool by opening this pool and to allow a U.S. life insurance firm to open a branch in Korea. As for substance patents, the two countries agreed on the protection of medicine-related patents and also agreed to gradually expand protection to chemical substance-related patents and processed food-related ones. It seems that the two sides failed to agree on the timing of implementation. However, since the difference in timing between the two sides is between "beginning next year" and "making legal preparations next year," it seems the timing of implementation will not become an issue.

It has been learned that the government plans to send the secretary general of the International Economic Policy Council to the United States next week to contract high-ranking U.S. officials and thereby to conclude negotiations by the end of this year. We want him to make efforts to practically protect our national interests in his contacts with high-ranking U.S. officials. Though we believe not many things are left for him to deal with because the two sides have agreed on major issues, we urge him to be very careful in discussing the timing of implementation and other issues and maintain independence in the negotiations.

The repeated application of Article 301 of the Commerce Law -- in practice, only to our country -- is not fair. We must insist on what we must insist on and stick to what we must stick to, without being pressed for time. We feel frustrated over the fact that things are not this way.

U.S. 'DRAGGING FEET' ON AIR SERVICE MEMORANDUM

SK142356 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 Dec 85 p 8

[Text] The Ministry of Transportation is weighing a set of steps designed to have the United States implement the bilateral aviation memorandum signed back in 1980, officials said yesterday. One of the steps under study is to delay the government's approval of United Airline's flight to Seoul from Tokyo until the U.S. Administration puts the memorandum into effect, according to the officials.

United, which has purchased Pan Am's Pacific routes, plans to make flights to Seoul in the coming year.

The officials charged that the U.S. side has been dragging its feet on the memorandum which would provide Korean Air with the right to serve Chicago for "unjustified reasons."

Instead of implementing the note, the officials charged, U.S. Government officials have recently called for negotiating a "new aviation" memorandum of understanding which would surely deprive KAL of the right to regularly fly to Chicago.

An official expressed his "personal" view that the Korean side cannot wait indefinitely.

The official drew attention to recent wire dispatches that Japan's Transportation Ministry sees United as a "new airline," despite Pan Am's existing route rights, and it wants to negotiate route approval with American officials before giving its permission.

Australia and New Zealand are said to be supportive of the Japanese stance.

He said that the Korea-U.S. working-level aviation meeting scheduled for late this year had been called off, since the gathering would hardly resolve the difference between the two countries.

Such talks nonetheless could be held shortly before or after the dedication of a new cargo terminal now under construction at Kimpo International Airport, he said. The facility, adjacent to the present cargo terminal of the Flying Tigers, is scheduled for completion in early March next year.

Furthermore, the transportation officials contended that the present Korea-U.S. aviation pact be overhauled because it is "decisively" in favor of American carriers. They said that the accord allows American carriers to make flights to all cities in Korea. They also are allowed to fly to virtually all foreign cities via Korea.

In stark contrast, they pointed out, Korean Air is permitted to only fly to three cities, New York, Los Angeles and Honolulu. They also noted that KAL planes flying the Seoul-New York route cannot stop over in Los Angeles.

SPECIALIST ASSOCIATED WITH KIM TAE-CHUNG JAILED

SK150302 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Dec 85 p 11

[Text] On 12 December, Mapo Police Station referred to summary trial Mr Yi Tae-ho, 40, a specialist working for the secretaries of Kim Tae-chung, cochairman of the Council for Promotion of Democracy, who is living in the Yulsan Apartments, Amsa-dong, Kangdong-ku Seoul, on charges of fabricating and spreading a groundless rumor, and had him sentenced to a 5-day jail term.

CPD OFFICIAL CONNECTED WITH KIM TAE-CHUNG BOOK ARRESTED

SK150310 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Dec 85 p 11

[Text] Mr Kim Hyong-mun, 46, director of the operations department of the Council for Promotion of Democracy [CPD], was taken away by the police in front of the Ohongno wedding hall, Chongno-ku, Seoul, at around 1400 on 13 December. It has been learned that he was taken by the police in connection with the publication of a book entitled "Kim Tae-chung, Who Is He?", published by Kummundang, a publishing company owned by Mr. Kim.

FOREIGN MINISTRY PUBLISHES WHITE BOOK, PART I

BK111401 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 5 Dec 85

[Supplement I to Story Slugged "White Book" Undeclared War -- SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 5 -- The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea Wednesday made public a white book titled "Undeclared War Against the People's Republic of Kampuchea". The book falls into eight parts:

- The Beginnings of the Tragedy,
- Rescuing the Pol Pot Gang,
- Yesterday: War Against Vietnam; Today: War Against Kampuchea,
- The "Coalition" Soap Bubble,
- Where the Enemies Come From,
- Money and Weapons for the Murderers,
- A Criminal Conspiracy,
- The Enemies' Schemes Are Doomed to Failure.

SPK will publish the document in three instalments. This one is the first.

In January 1979 a new state, the People's Republic of Kampuchea, was formed on the ancient land of Angkor. The years that have passed since those days, memorable to each Cambodian citizen, were a period of arduous creative labor for all of our people, a period of overcoming incredible hardships that were a legacy left us by the blood-thirsty Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan regime and at the same time a period of first successes in national development and the defense of the homeland, a period of the revival of the entire Cambodian nation.

Because of the incessant scheming of the enemies of the PRK, however, these past years were for our people the years of selfless struggle for the establishment of people's power in defending the ancient land of Angkor. This book is about who and what hinders People's Kampuchea in building a new life and about the undeclared war against our peaceful country unleashed by U.S. imperialism, Beijing hegemonism and international reaction, including the ruling circles of some of the ASEAN countries. At the same time, this book is about our people's determination to uphold their right to independent development and about the futility of any attempts to deprive them of the gains of the January revolution.

Some of the material for this work was kindly placed at our disposal by the External Relations Department of the PRK Ministry of Defense.

Press Department of the PRK Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Phnom Penh, November 1985.

The Beginnings of the Tragedy

A ghost country thrown back to the year zero of its history -- this is how foreign observers described Cambodia in early 1979. The 3 years, 8 months, and 20 days of the murderous "social experiment" conducted by the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique had brought the Khmer nation practically to the verge of total annihilation. John Pilger, a well-known British journalist who was among the first foreigners to visit Phnom Penh after the downfall of the tyranny of the Pol Pot regime, described his impressions of the trip. He wrote that the city was a nightmare. You felt as if you found yourself in a big city like Manchester on which a neutron bomb had just been dropped. Houses, offices, schools, hotels and the university were deserted and doors were open wide.

The tragedy of the Cambodians, about which world public opinion learned after the nearly 4-year-long period of the country's complete isolation from the outside world, staggered millions of people and made their hearts ache. The entire world was filled with grief and indignation and, at the same time, it was puzzled: The possibility of such barbarity in our day seemed so incredible. Yet, unfortunately, at the time far from all people understood the causes of the events of 1975-78 having rushed to put all the blame on the Cambodians themselves. Few people realised then that the horror of the Pol Pot regime had been predetermined by the earlier interference of external forces into the affairs of the Cambodian people, and that the beginnings of the tragedy had to be sought in the tragedy of old Cambodia (1) which had lived through a 5-year-long period of U.S. aggression.

Let us recall that a 1959 report of the U.S. Department of Defense provided the following assessment of the situation in Cambodia: The Khmer people are "by and large a passive and docile people" who "cannot be counted upon to act in any positive way for the benefit of U.S. aims and policies."

Nevertheless, just a decade later Washington "hot-heads" decided to use Cambodia in their military-political interests. Trying to scramble out of the Vietnam adventure, the administration of the then U.S. President Richard M. Nixon transferred the warfare from Vietnam to the neighboring neutral country, grossly violating not only the generally accepted norms of international law, but also the United States' own legislation.

The U.S. intrusion into Cambodia is rightfully referred to as the "foreign policy Watergate" of the Nixon administration: In March 1969 the U.S. President issued a secret order to start bombing Cambodian territory, of which not only the U.S. Congress -- in spite of the fact that the declaration of war is its constitutional prerogative -- but also most of the Pentagon's top officials were not aware. This was done at a time when the U.S. Government repeatedly stated its "scrupulous respect for the sovereignty of Cambodia."

The first bomb strike at its territory was made by U.S. aircraft on March 18, 1969. It was code-named "Breakfast," and was followed by "Lunch," "Snack," "Dinner," "Desert," and so on. In all, B-52 strategic bombers mounted 3,630 raids on the defenseless country. The general code name of the operation -- "Operation Menu" was downright cannibalistic.

All precautions were taken in Washington to cover up the operation from U.S. and world opinion. The B-52 stratofortresses that took off from the U.S. air base on Guam were instructed not to set a course for Cambodia right away. At first they laid a course for South Vietnam and were given new instructions only when they were in flight. The White House supervised the operation through the command of U.S. occupation troops in Vietnam, bypassing many military channels, even the Pentagon's statistical service, which maintains flight records for each aircraft of the U.S. Air Force, was deliberately misinformed.

All in all, 104,000 tons of bombs were dropped on Cambodia over the 14 months preceding the "official" U.S. military intervention in the country. Tens of thousands of civilians became victims of U.S. imperialism's "undeclared" war against the Cambodia people.

The barbarous raids, however, by U.S. strategic aircraft on Cambodian territory failed to improve the situation of the U.S. aggressors in Vietnam. So the White House made a decision to resort to a large-scale armed intervention. On 30 April 1970, in an appearance on national television, Nixon announced the sending of U.S. combat troops into Cambodia, an intervention purportedly "dictated by the need to protect the U.S. servicemen in Vietnam."

By this time the CIA spy ring in Phnom Penh had already staged a coup d'etat in Cambodia that had resulted in the seizure of power by the pro-American Lon Nol puppet regime, which immediately undertook the repression of the leftist and other opposition forces in the country. (Washington, incidentally, did not consider it necessary to notify Lon Nol himself of the intrusion of U.S. troops into the country. It was only after the event that he was informed by the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh that a 20,000-strong U.S.-Saigon force had crossed the Cambodian border.)

The period of Cambodia's peaceful neutral development came to an end. The country was drawn into the war that U.S. imperialism had already been waging for quite a few years against the peoples of Vietnam and Laos. The effects of U.S. military intervention were truly catastrophic for the Cambodian people. The fiery inferno brought about by U.S. bombings, which lasted until August 1983, devastated whole regions of the country. According to U.S. sources, U.S. aircraft dropped more than 500,000 bombs (one per 15 residents) and thousands of tons of napalm on Cambodian "targets". These raids and punitive operations against the country's national liberation forces, which had risen to struggle against the invaders and their stooges, resulted in the death of 600,000 Cambodians (each tenth resident of the country). Having lost their homes and trying to save their lives, hundreds of thousands of peasants became refugees. The country's economic life was disrupted. In the regions controlled by the Lon Nol regime, agricultural output dropped to only one-fourth and industrial output to just one-eighth of the prewar level. Four-fifths of industrial enterprises was demolished, two-thirds of the rubber plantations (which had been a major source of foreign exchange before the war) destroyed, and most of the railways and motor roads were put out of order. Prices for essential goods skyrocketed to an exorbitant level, and the population suffered from unemployment and the corruption of government officials. Along with Vietnam, Cambodia was turned into a proving ground for testing U.S. chemical weapons. Today thousands of hectares of land, poisoned by toxic agents sprayed over it in the years of the U.S. aggression, are still unsuitable for farming.

"The Khmer Rouge (Pol Pot's followers)" (2) British journalist William Shawcross wrote in his book "Sideshow. Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia," were born out of the inferno..." U.S. aggression in Cambodia and the repressive measures taken by the Lon Nol regime brought about a powerful upsurge in the Cambodian people's national liberation struggle. Already by the beginning of 1976 nine-tenths of the country's territory was under the control of the patriots. The successes gained by the fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Laos in their struggle against the U.S. aggressor were undoubtedly conducive to the victory of the anti-imperialist forces in Cambodia. The Cambodian patriots launched a massive offensive by their forces in the spring of 1974 and overthrew the antipopular Lon Nol regime on April 17. The pro-Beijing group headed by Pol Pot, however, took advantage of the victory. By deceiving, intriguing, and secretly eliminating its political opponents, it managed to worm its way into the leadership of the national liberation movement. The black night of Pol Pot's tyranny descended upon the country.

In August 1979, the People's Revolutionary Tribunal for the trial of the genocide crime of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, held in the presence of prominent foreign jurists in Phnom Penh, rightfully classified the crimes perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge in the period between 1975 and 1978 as genocide against the Cambodian people. According to the official data (published in 1983), collected by the P.R.K. Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Committed by the Pol Pot Regime, the policy of genocide resulted in the death of 3,314,768 Cambodians. Most likely these figures are not final, since new sites of mass burial of victims of Pol Pot's genocide are still being uncovered in different regions of our country to this day.

In its domestic and foreign policy the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime was guided by the ideological and practical principles that once underlied the Chinese Great Cultural Revolution and that today have been condemned in China itself. The adventurist experiments, which were passed off as "profound social and economic transformations", resulted in the destruction of industry and transport and in great damage to agriculture. The country's finances and trade were abolished, its health care and public education systems were destroyed, and its centuries-old national culture was undermined. Cities were proclaimed an "offspring of exploiter civilization", and urban residents were driven into the countryside and forcibly turned into farmhands. Labor became involuntary and people were not remunerated in any way. Buddhism, just as all other religions, was banned, and religious ministers were exterminated en masse. Family ties were undermined, and "new marriages" forcibly were imposed by decisions of the authorities were introduced. The country's ethnic minorities were subjected to particularly cruel repression. Pol Pot's chauvinism became ruthless in the extreme.

The characteristic features of DK foreign policy were the artificially imposed isolation of the country from the rest of the world, the building up of tensions, and the fanning of hostility toward the neighboring countries. In Phnom Penh there was a special coordinating bureau that supervised the subversive activities of the pro-Chinese antigovernment groups in the countries of the region. There were base camps for Thai antigovernment units on the country's territory. The Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime systematically provoked armed incidents on the Kampuchean-Thai border, which were reported almost daily by Bangkok newspapers in the second half of the 1970's. During the rule of the Khmer Rouge, the ties of friendship and solidarity that had been formed in the years of joint struggle against U.S. aggression between the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea were ruptured. The Pol Pot regime laid territorial claims to two neighboring countries of Indochina and subsequently seized some parts of their territories. By 1978, the aggressive and provocative actions of the Pol Pot regime had led to an open, even though undeclared, conflict with the SRV.

In resorting to armed clashes with its neighbours and increasingly severe terror inside the country, the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique relied upon the unconditional support of their Beijing patrons. The Western mass media, many of which now prefer not to remember Beijing's sinister role in the Kampuchean events of 1975-78, had to admit it during those years.

The U.S. newspaper, THE NEW YORK TIMES, wrote while Pol Pot was still in power that the Pol Pot's executioners had sadistically slaughtered many Cambodian residents, and that China had supplied its Cambodian vassals with instruments of murder and torture. An AFP correspondent reported from Bangkok in 1978: "Over the past 3 years China has completely equipped 30 to 40 regiments of the Cambodian Army. It has supplied 107-mm rockets, 130-mm rapid-firing guns, A.K.-47 automatic assault rifles, speedboats, trucks, fuel, and ammunition. Several thousand tons of shipments arrive each week at Pochentong Airport near Phnom Penh in Chinese Boeings or at the port of Kampong Som (formerly Sihanoukville) in Chinese cargo ships..." (It should be noted parenthetically that a considerable part of these weapons is still being used by the surviving Pol Pot gangs in their subversive activities against the PRK.) "It is also China", stressed the British weekly THE NEW STATESMAN in August 1978 "which props in power the psychopaths who terrorize Cambodia, having reduced it to a level of destitution and misery without rival in a troubled world."

Dozens of books and hundreds of articles have been written and numerous films have been made about the rule of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique and its consequences. The whole world, except the spiritual fathers of the Pol Pot tyranny, has condemned the heinous crimes perpetrated in "Democratic Kampuchea." Thus, the U.S. press, which today wryly recalls the times of Pol Pot's genocide and its effects upon present-day Cambodia, called the Khmer Rouge regime a "replica of Auschwitz." At the close of 1978, when the ever growing flow of refugees from the Pol Pot torture chambers started bringing

information about the atrocities committed in the country, the U.S. press referred to the situation as the "gloomiest period in the 20th-century history." Even J. Carter, then president of the United States, had to admit that the Pol Pot regime was "the world's worst violator of human rights."

Certain political figures in the West admitted this only too late, after the screening of the film "The Killing Fields." According to the BANGKOK POST of May 24, 1985, the Belgian representative at the European Parliament, for example, after seeing this film said that most of the viewers did not know anything about what had happened in Cambodia under Pol Pot, but that now they would be able to realize how terrible it was.

The Cambodian people could not put up with the inhuman dictatorship. Despite the system of total surveillance aimed at detecting any manifestation of dissent, the population's spontaneous uprisings were spreading throughout the country. Because it suffered a succession of defeats in the war that it had unleashed at the instigation of China against the SRV, it was becoming increasingly difficult for the Pol Pot regime to suppress the insurgent movement. By the autumn of 1978, several districts in a number of Cambodia's provinces had already been completely liberated. In late November 1978 a national congress of revolutionary patriotic forces convened in one of these districts and formed the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea (UFNSK). On December 2, the UFNSK Central Committee adopted an 11-paragraph political program and called upon the people to mount a nationwide uprising against the hateful Pol Pot regime. At the same time it applied to Vietnam for help. In a few days the uprising spread all over the country. The Vietnamese people, just as they had more than once in the years of the struggle against their common enemies, responded to the Cambodians' call for help. Under the blows dealt by the revolutionary patriotic forces and units of Vietnamese volunteers, the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime fell, and on January 7, 1979, the Cambodian capital was captured by the insurgent people. A new state, the People's Republic of Kampuchea, was born on the Cambodian soil.

The Cambodians justifiably refer to January 1979 as a turning point in their history. The nation was saved from the mad cutthroats, intoxicated by the bloods of millions of defenseless victims. The prospect for a national revival opened up before the long-suffering Cambodian people. At the same time, the elimination of "Democratic Kampuchea," which had been a permanent nest of tension in Southeast Asia, created prerequisites for normalising the situation in that region. Millions of people throughout the world regarded the victory of the Cambodian people as a triumph of justice and humanity. It was welcomed by many socialist and developing states, several Western countries, and broad circles of the world public. The downfall of "Democratic Kampuchea" however, and the formation of a new peaceful state on the Cambodian soil was by no means to everyone's liking. A number of states, above all China, the United States, and the ASEAN countries, not only did not recognise the PRK but, in effect, began working for its elimination. A real undeclared war, still going on today, was started against the Cambodian people.

The enemies of the PRK maintain and provide arms for the surviving gangs of Pol Pot group and for other groups of the reactionary Khmers who have found shelter in the territory of neighboring Thailand, from where they conduct sabotage and terrorist activities against the PRK. For several years now the enemies of the PRK have been deliberately stirring up the so-called "Cambodian problem", which arose, they allege, because of the overthrow of the Pol Pot regime in 1979 and the presence of Vietnamese volunteer units on the territory of the PRK. The enemies of our country interfere in its internal affairs, mounting psychological warfare against it, attempting to undermine the growing international prestige of the PRK, misrepresenting relations between People's Kampuchea and the countries friendly to it, above all its relations with Vietnam and are hampering the economic revival of the country.

Because of efforts by the United States, and China the NATO and ASEAN countries, for several years the PRK's lawful government has not been represented at the UN. Instead, the seat belongs to the "Government of Democratic Kampuchea" of Pol Pot, which since mid-1982 has been called the "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea". It was created from heterogeneous elements of Khmer emigres, entrenched on Thai territory, by the West, the ASEAN countries, and Beijing.

The initiators and moving spirits of the continuing undeclared war against the Kampuchean people are Washington and Beijing, those who had been systematically exterminating the Kampuchean nation with the Pol Pot regime's napalm and who now shed crocodile tears over its "tragic fate" and openly interfere in the internal affairs of the PRK. In trying to realise their imperialist and hegemonist aspirations in that region of the world, the United States and China are instigating the ASEAN countries to a confrontation with Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. They are stoking the fires of tension in Southeast Asia and hindering the creation of a zone of peace, stability and cooperation in the region.

Rescuing the Pol Pot Gang

Under the onslaught of the revolutionary patriotic forces and the Vietnamese volunteer units, the Pol Pot troops fled in panic westward to the Thai border in 1979. En route they destroyed crops, burned down villages and bridges, destroyed provision depots and seed stocks, blew up industrial installations, and put roads, railways, and telephone and telegraph lines out of order.

The surviving Pol Pot banis forced the civilian population to go with them as they withdrew. The Khmer Rouge made desperate attempts to retain control over these people who had been utterly emaciated by famine, disease, and back-breaking labor. They still hoped to return to Cambodia with their help. Tens of thousands of these hostages for whom the incredible hardships of the long march were too much to endure died, not having reached the border.

It seemed that Pol Pot and the remnants of his military machine, which their own people had rejected and thrown out of the country, had nothing left to count on. Yet foreign benefactors turned up once again to help out these monsters of cruelty who were guilty of the deaths of millions of their compatriots.

In 1978, China, with presentiment of the approaching crisis of the regime headed by its henchmen, undertook diplomatic maneuvers to settle the Thai-Cambodian conflict. On 14 July, following talks with Chinese leaders, Ieng Sary, vice-premier in charge of foreign affairs of "Democratic Kampuchea", visited Bangkok and promised to put an end to the armed incidents on the Thai border, which, as already noted, had been endlessly provoked by the Pol Pot troops in the period of 1975-78.

Quite soon, on November 5, 1978, Deng Xiaoping, vice premier of the PRK, paid a visit to Bangkok and assured the Thai leadership that the Pol Pot troops would no longer attack the border regions of Thailand. In exchange, he obtained Bangkok's consent to use Thailand's airspace to carry supplies to the Pol Pot troops. The deliveries of Chinese armaments via Thai territory enabled the regime of "Democratic Kampuchea" to increase the numerical strength of its armed units from 17 to 23 divisions, 19 of which were stationed in the eastern districts of the country for waging war against the SRV. Beijing itself was busy concentrating its strike forces on the Chinese-Vietnamese border, getting ready for the February (1979) attack on Vietnam.

Nevertheless, the downfall of the regime of "Democratic Kampuchea" took China by surprise. Geng Biao, the then secretary of the Chinese Central Military Commission, admitted that in January 1979 "Phnom Penh was lost 7 months too soon" (Geng Biao's

diary, containing secret information about Beijing's unleashing of the undeclared war against the PRK was published by the Taiwan Periodical Studies of Communist China in October 1980).

To take measures for rescuing the remnants of the Pol Pot army, Beijing sent Geng Biao and Han Nianlong, deputy minister of foreign affairs, on an emergency mission to Bangkok. On January 13, 1979, during a secret conference with the Thai prime minister, Geng Biao, having confirmed China's determination to render all-round assistance and support to "Democratic Kampuchea, requested that Thailand give shelter to the Pol Pot units and that it persuade other ASEAN countries to recognize the new Cambodian Government. During the conference, an understanding was reached on the use of Thailand's territory for providing supplies to the Pol Pot bands. On 18 January, Han Nianlong informed Ieng Sary on the outcome of the secret Thai-Chinese talks, stating in particular that weapons could not be conveyed through Koh Kong. They would be sent in cargo ships sailing to Bangkok, under the guise of civilian goods. Thailand's authorities would take measures to supply facilities for their transportation.

Thailand's granting of shelter to the surviving Pol Pot troops and rendering them every kind of assistance, including supplying them with Chinese weapons, was soon attested by many foreign observers. Already on 7 February, 1979, THE NEW YORK TIMES reported that Washington was aware "that Thailand... was permitting China to resupply insurgent forces in Cambodia through Thai ports and possibly airfields". On February 27, the MALAYSIAN STAR wrote: "Chinese cargo ships and Thai trawlers are secretly carrying arms for Pol Pot troops to Thailand's Kut Island to be later supplied to the Khmer Rouge by Thai trawlers." NEWSWEEK pointed out that well-armed Pol Pot's soldiers were moving along Thailand's eastern border together with refugees. This tactical retreat was carried out with the active support by Thai troops. The number of Khmer Rouge soldiers who managed to escape at that time (from the pursuit of the revolutionary patriotic forces) was about 10,000 on 26 October, 1979. The French magazine PARIS-MATCH reported that the Khmer Rouge had fled across the border in confusion, after which they had been taken by Thai trucks to a special camp. There they rested, were given provisions by the Thai military, and subsequently were brought back to Kampuchea to continue the unending war.

In rescuing the remnants of the Pol Pot bands Beijing set their leaders the task of preventing the normalization of the situation in the PRK. On January 13, 1979, Deng Xiaoping instructed Ieng Sary in Beijing: "One must have a firm grasp of guerrilla warfare. When conditions permit, one should engage in mobile warfare. One must conduct a people's war, fight the enemy along the border and in his positions, pin him down there, and cut his supply lines." In adapting itself to the new alignment of forces, China recommended that its puppets modify their "strategic line" and renounce the most dogmatic political principles of the days of "Democratic Kampuchea" which had scared off quite a few political "allies" of the "Popular Movement for the Liberation of the Motherland" (This is how Beijing wanted to represent the Khmer Rouge's subversive activities.) In the talks with Ieng Sary mentioned above, Deng Xiaoping advised one of the leaders of the Khmer Rouge to "Bring about a broad union on the basis of nationalism and patriotism, think of establishing a united front with Sihanouk (3), refrain from highlighting the role of the Communist Party."

Carrying out the instructions of their mentors, Pol Pot's followers soon began to state the need for the "unification of the entire Cambodian people" into the "broadest national front" in which "contradictions between the classes and political groups" would be relegated to the background. Sihanouk, who had been almost forgotten after his nearly three-year-long "house arrest" under the Pol Pot regime, was prevailed upon to assist. Early in January 1979, he was transported to Beijing and then promptly delivered to New York to address a session of the UN Security Council as a "top-level

representative of Democratic Kampuchea". There he delivered a stream of mendacious accusations at the revolutionary patriotic forces of Cambodia, trying at the same time to slander the fraternal aid rendered to them by the Vietnamese volunteers. Yet, probably taking revenge for his personal tragedy (the Khmer Rouge had killed five of his children and fourteen nephews and grandchildren), Sihanouk at the same time offered an extremely bitter view of the regime of "Democratic Kampuchea" on whose behalf he was speaking. The Pol Pot supporters nevertheless continued to bring pressure to bear upon Sihanouk, aiming to set up a "united front" of counterrevolutionary forces. Their spokesman, Khieu Samphan, said in an interview with the French newspaper LE MONDE on 7 September 1979: We offered Sihanouk the post of chairman of the Front of the Great National Patriotic and Democratic Union... If he accepts it, we are ready to reorganise the government to provide for the formation of such a front. In this event, he will also take the office of chairman of the state Presidium."

Complying with Beijing new strategic directive, the Pol Pot supporters "reorganised" the Government of "Democratic Kampuchea". In late 1979, Pol Pot's resignation from the post of "prime minister" was announced; he retained the office of commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, though. Khieu Samphan became the new "premier" of "Democratic Kampuchea." Of course, this action was purely propagandist: Having retreated to the background, Pol Pot retained the actual levers of power in the Khmer Rouge camp. At the same time, the renovated facade of "Democratic Kampuchea" became more attractive to those imperialist forces that would willingly have joined in the anti-Cambodian campaign on the side of the Khmer Rouge, but that had been reluctant to deal with Pol Pot. Flirting with the West became another important activity of the Pol Pot followers after their expulsion from Cambodia. Trying to deceive world opinion, they began "repenting" of the "errors" they had previously committed. For example, Ieng Sary stated the following on 1 March 1980: "We admit that errors were made and leftist extremities committed. We acted too hastily. There were political errors. We thought insufficiently over the concrete structure of the state. We placed too great an emphasis on the political consciousness and had too little experience in administering the state."

Commentator Jacques Bekaert in the BANGKOK POST of 2 August 1985, recalled: "A couple of years ago in Beijing, a senior (Chinese) official told us: 'OK, they made mistakes in the past. We were aware of that, but they have changed, they have recognized their errors. How could the party of Democratic Kampuchea find any popular support for its struggle if people hate it...? Others will not be that easily convinced; some could even say that even if the Khmer Rouge have changed, they still don't want them. Indeed, it takes more than a few good words to reassure those who have seen the Khmer Rouge in action in the seventies. The human conscience finds it hard to accept the conversion of such immense sinners."

This "repentance" by the Pol Pot followers was addressed, above all, to Washington, which was to a certain extent tied down by the framework of the campaign on "human rights" in its relations with the Khmer Rouge. While making numerous concessions to the West, however, in the hope of enlisting military-political support, the Pol Pot adherents were fully aware not only of their weak points, but of their trump cards as well. They alone represented then and still represent the only organized "internal opposition" to the PRK Government, capable, as some people in the West believe, of hampering the building of a new society in Cambodia. It was precisely for this reason that the Pol Pot "representative" at the United Nations, expounding the program of action of "Democratic Kampuchea" at a press conference, bluntly said: "Western countries, in particular the United States, and also Japan, ASEAN states, and China are interested in our country." The united anti-Cambodian front of the forces of imperialism, expansionism, and international reaction, already taking shape in early 1979, permitted the regime of "Democratic Kampuchea" to usurp the right to represent Cambodia at the United Nations. Revived by the support of their protectors, the Khmer Rouge,

who were condemned by a military and political defeat at the beginning of that year, were now made use of by Beijing and Washington in their game of "anti-Kampuchea solitaire."

Yesterday: War Against Vietnam; Today: War Against Cambodia

The defeat of the United States in Vietnam compelled Washington to temporarily renounce its policy of overt interference in the affairs of the sovereign states of Indochina. But since the late 1970's, the United States has become more active in its efforts to recover the positions it had lost in Southeast Asia and, if not openly at least indirectly, to restore its military presence.

The victory of the revolutionary patriotic forces in Cambodia and the formation of the PRK were seen by Washington as a hard blow to its imperialist designs. Acting in union with Beijing, the United States began a sharp attack on the peaceful policy of People's Cambodia and its Vietnamese friend, misrepresenting the aid rendered to the Cambodian people by the fraternal Vietnamese nation. The United States was one of the few countries that not only did not condemn China's February, 1979 aggression against Vietnam, but even managed to find arguments to justify it. Although the spokesman of the Carter Administration more than once denounced the misanthropic system that existed in "Democratic Kampuchea," after its downfall, the White House has used by all means through pressure, if necessary, to retain a place in the United Nations for the Polpotists.

Acting in conjunction with Beijing and other reactionary forces, Washington has joined the subversive activities against the PRK, using as its trump card the reactionary circles of the Khmer emigration entrenched in "sanctuaries" near the Thai-Cambodian border, in the dirty game of anti-PRK politics.

By the second half of the 1970's, the press in some countries of the region occasionally published reports on "mysterious" activity of the armed units of the so-called "Khmer Serei" (Free Khmer) enjoying the support of the U.S. and Thai special services. In November 1978, some newspapers even affirmed that a secret meeting of U.S. and Chinese representatives had been held in Bangkok at which the possibility of cooperation between the Polpotists and the units of the "Khmer Serei" were discussed in order to create for the "Khmer Rouge" support bases in western Cambodia.

It should be recalled that "Khmer Serei" is the name taken since the 1950's by small armed bands made up of ultrarightist elements living off smuggling and plundering in the Cambodian-Thai border region. In 1975, they were joined by remnants of the Lon Nol troops that had managed to escape from the "Khmer Rouge." According to the press, the "Khmer Serei" bands begin to receive aid from abroad beginning at that time.

Nevertheless, during the period of the Pol Pot regime, the "Khmer Serei" did not grow into a military and political force of any importance and remained, in the main, just a number of small, divided bands of marauders and smugglers. It was with the influx of refugees forcibly driven by the "Khmer Rouge" that the situation changed: The "Khmer Serei" bands then had the opportunity to recruit free forces as well as to feed and enrich themselves from the aid of specialized international organizations that arrived for the refugees in September 1979.

The internecine struggle among the already warring "Khmer Serei" bands gained fresh momentum. In October 1979, five "Khmer Serei" bands regrouped themselves around Son Sann, former prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and announced the formation of a "Khmer People's National Liberation Front" (KPNLF) which would have at its disposal several thousand combatants. A few months later, the "front" of Son Sann succeeded in taking control of several refugee camps and in seizing the major positions of the right-wing emigration forces.

The promotion of Son Sann alarmed Sihanouk, who always claimed to be the leader of the "united front" of the Khmer emigration being put together by Beijing, Washington, and the Asian countries. Sihanouk lacked a political and military movement to support him. Nevertheless, in the summer of 1981, he set up in Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, a front called "National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia" (FUNCINPEC). However, this facade was not enough for him to gain broad international support. That is why, without hesitating too long, he accepted the proposal to take command of the armed units of Moulinaka (National Liberation Movement of Kampuchea). Founded in 1979 by a certain Kong Siloah, who had brought together several small bands of "Khmer Serei." (Kong Siloah was poisoned in the summer of 1981. Sihanouk's supporters accused the Sonsannians of the poisoning, which triggered violent clashes between the two rival groups. Kong Siloah was succeeded by In Tam, who broke away from Sihanouk in January 1985 when he was convinced that the struggle against the people's power was futile and that Thailand was hatching predatory plans to regain control of the provinces that it had incorporated into the Kingdom of Cambodia in 1902).

Sihanouk's involvement in the armed struggle against his own people was the natural product of his political and moral degradation. It vividly showed that all his previous, as well as subsequent, statements that he was "tired" of political activities and could no longer "remain an indifferent observer while the Khmer are tearing at each other's throats," are merely a "martyred humanist" pose he took solely for the sake of his own political gain. In fact, how to judge the acts of Sihanouk who declares: "I do not want Cambodian blood to be shed again. Enough Cambodian blood has been shed," but who later on justifies his decision to put himself at the head of an anti-popular war: "...There are men who are ready to fight, to fight for me. At the Thai border, there are about 2,000 partisans with a small quantity of guns and ammunition. They ask for aid...I did not organize this movement. Deep down, I do not agree with them, I know that they are not reasonable. But, I cannot abandon them in misfortune. I have to find weapons, medicines, and money for them. China promised to help me do this." (The two Sihanouk quotes are from an interview granted in July 1981 to the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL).

Despite their boisterous names, the right-wing emigration groups of Son Sann and Sihanouk, founded with the support of the powers hostile to the PRK, are dominated organizationally and militarily by the Pol Pot forces. This was revealed by many foreign correspondents traveling along the Thai-Cambodian border. The following is an example, the opinion of a reporter of the Australian paper THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, who visited this region at the end of 1984: "A tour of 1,200 km in three days in the camps along the Thai-Cambodian border showed me that the propaganda cliches heard at the United Nations and reproduced by Thai press, according to which the noncommunist forces of Prince Sihanouk and former Prime Minister Son Sann are being strengthened and would one day absorb the 35,000 men of the "Khmer Rouge" Army, are absolutely absurd. "The Khmer Rouge" of Pol Pot are the only military force deserving of this name in the coalition".

However, the chiefs of the gangs and their foreign masters do not hesitate to praise their "goods". For example, Sihanouk announced in 1979, during his trip to Paris, his intention to create rapidly a "national army" with 100,000 "patriots". One has the desire to ask Sihanouk today: "Honorable prince, many years have passed. Where is your "resistance movement of 100,000 men?" Why is your glorious army (the units of Moulinaka) afraid of not only the Pol Pot gang who periodically make themselves respected by (the armed forces) of their other "comrades in arms," but also afraid of the "Front" of Son Sann?" Other chiefs of the emigrated rabble covered the delirious plans of launching a "national war" against the PRK Government.

Sihanouk gave the show away in his already mentioned SPIEGEL interview: "The Khmer Rouge" affirmed that in the past 2 years (it is necessary to note that the interview was held in mid-1981) they had liberated two-thirds of the country's territory and would liberate Phnom Penh within the next 3 years, that is in 1984...

Son Sann affirms that the Vietnamese will be defeated in 4 years.

More than 3 years (time fixed by Pol Pot) and even 4 years (time fixed by Son Sann) have passed already, and Phnom Penh is yet to be "liberated." On the contrary, in the spring of 1985, there was no Cambodian soil under the control of various emigrated "fronts" and "movements." Is not this evidence of the irreversibility of the changes in people's Cambodia? Does not this offer any matter for reflection to the "savers of the fatherland" on the vanity of their attempts to destroy the gains of the Cambodian revolution?

However, those who concocted the imperialistic and expansionist plans against Cambodia and organized the gangs for these aims did not doubt the usefulness of increasing interference into the Cambodian people's internal affairs. They demanded of their henchmen an action even if it were only symbolic. In November 1979, a "land bridge" was established between Thailand and Cambodia ostensibly to provide foodstuffs to the starving population. It was proposed to the "authoritative country" to ensure the protection of the food convoy, notably with the participation of Son Sann's men. By so doing, Son Sann openly called the west to launch an armed invasion against the sovereign state of Cambodia.

Concurrently, a campaign on a larger scale was launched in Washington against Cambodia and Vietnam. It was called not only to discredit the PRK Government and to exert economic pressure upon it, but also to open a good supply channel to the Khmer emigres along the Thai-Cambodian border. It was intended to influence many specialized international organizations which provide food, medicines, health care, and other assistance and which were ready to extend this aid to the PRK.

Imitating the White House, a choir of politicians, journalists, and experts set about to deplore the tragic condition of hundreds of thousands of Cambodian refugees along the Thai-Cambodian border. The same concern was also shown by the organizers of this farce to the PRK's people who were also threatened with starvation. But the misfortune, repeated many times in the West, is that the Heng Samrin government "does not control" the country, thus providing no guarantee that the aid provided would help the starving people instead of being confiscated by the "occupying Vietnamese troops." All Anti-PRK and anti-Vietnamese calumnies were intensively reproduced by the press and television, as well as at the international conference on aid to Cambodia which was held in New York at the end of 1979 and sponsored by the United Nations.

Of course, the food situation in the PRK was not good at that point. The responsible officials of the young republic did not attempt to hide this and they asked for international aid and ensured that this aid would be used with maximum efficiency. Despite all of this, the staffs of specialized organizations working in the PRK at the time Western aid started raised malicious "doubts" in the West and talked about the "capacity" of the PRK Government to control the distribution of international food aid. AFP reported from Bangkok that Jacques Danois, representative of UNICEF, in charge of supply and distribution of aid to Cambodia, declared after an inspection tour in the towns and villages of the country that he personally attended the distribution of products and medicines to women and children, the elderly, the sick, and refugees on the itinerary from Ho Chi Minh City to Phnom Penh, in towns as well as in rural localities so that he could certify that food aid and other aid sent by the International Red Cross and UNICEF were fairly distributed among the refugees in the northwestern region, the Pol Pot soldiers held prisoners, and civilians returning to their home. Jacques Danois photographed all this.

He met with Vietnamese doctors treating the local population in hospitals and infirmaries. He had the opportunity to see a convoy of trucks transporting rice from Vietnam: the rice was immediately distributed to the local population. According to Jacques Danois, all of this confirmed that allegations by some Western politicians that Vietnam takes advantage of the tragedy in Cambodia are baseless.

Concerning the debate on the "food problem" in Cambodia imposed at that time at the United Nations, it is necessary to add the following. First, the difficult food situation in the PRK is not attributable to the new power. Western press and UN experts prefer to shut up, but this difficult situation was inherited from the Pol Pot regime which had completely disorganized the economy. Second, by 1981, the threat of starvation was practically eliminated due to the great efforts of the Cambodian people and thanks to aid from Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries. Although the country needs more food and other primary goods, nobody died of malnutrition or starvation. And, third, the PRK Government was not responsible for the condition of hundreds of thousands of refugees forcibly brought by the Pol Pot gang and who then died of starvation in the "sanctuaries" in Thailand.

However, by fielding all the means at their disposal, Washington and its allies sent the greater part of the international humanitarian aid not to the interior of Cambodia, where it would be distributed to the intended recipients but to the sector of the Thai-Cambodian border, where it was stored in Cambodian refugee camps, becoming, in fact, the supporting bases of the Cambodian emigre gangs launching terrorist acts against the PRK. Although every effort has been made to hide it, international aid did not go only to the partisans of Son Sann and Sihanouk, but also to the Pol Pot gang, which the West does not support officially. "There is irrefutable proof that the West continues to support the Pol Pot gang," wrote the correspondent of the GUARDIAN on 24 November 1979 while reporting along the Thai-Cambodian border. At present, what Western powers call "resistance forces" is the same "Khmer Rouge" which President Carter said in 1978 was "the most infamous transgressor of human rights." The correspondent wrote in detail how food and medicine are delivered to the Pol Pot gang at the Thai border. This is one of the proceedings: "The Thai authorities send rice to this border region through operations code-named 'Hand Clap.' The 'Khmer Rouge' wait at the arranged places; after hearing the signal, a clap of hands, they come out and take the rice. After that, those who brought the rice leave quietly. This operation remains secret."

The author of the report wrote: "Bangkok continues to affirm that the Pol Pot forces are not supplied by the Thai territory... Bangkok officials who are in charge of aid to starving Cambodians must know that many deliveries sponsored by the organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross or UNICEF fall into the hands of the 'Khmer Rouge' and fill their stocks, the remainder is distributed to the civilians."

Not only has Washington put international humanitarian aid at the disposal of the armed gangs of the Khmer emigres, it has also increased its own deliveries. A special mission in charge of bringing "humanitarian aid to Cambodian refugees" was notably set up for this purpose in Thailand. As one realizes later, the credits allowed by the U.S. Congress for this "aid" were distributed via Thailand by the U.S. special services to the "Khmer resistance."

A base of operation for the "special group for Cambodian affairs," directly subordinate to the CIA, was created in 1979 in the small Thai border town of Aranyaprathet. It has become the main organizing center for U.S. subversive operations against the PRK. One of the collaborators of this center answered a Western journalist who asked him about his activities: "What we are doing here is a prolongation of our Vietnam War."

Therefore, Washington is, along with Beijing, one of the organizers of this undeclared war against the PRK. This shows the "communion" of strategic interests of the United States and China in this region, for the two countries have made every effort to topple the PRK and to increase tension in Southeast Asia. However, in the framework of this "communion," each party follows its own life. By founding and arming the "noncommunist factions" of the Khmer emigres -- the men of Son Sann and Sihanouk -- Washington and its ASEAN allies, Thailand particularly, wanted to have a counterweight to the pro-Chinese forces of Pol Pot in order to influence the course of the undeclared war by bringing pressure on Beijing if necessary. At the same time, the weakness of the troops of Son Sann and Sihanouk, their lack of firmness in their opposition to the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Army and the Vietnamese volunteers have forced Washington and the ASEAN countries to form quickly a "united front" of all anti-PRK forces. (to be continued)

HENG SAMRIN RECEIVES CUBAN DELEGATION 9 DEC

BK100640 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0440 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 9 -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the State Council, received in Phnom Penh Monday (9 December) -- afternoon a Cuban party and state delegation led by Juan Almeida Bosque, Politburo member, and president of the Control Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice president of the State Council of the Republic of Cuba.

President Heng Samrin informed his Cuban guests of the great achievements recorded by the Kampuchean people in the past seven years and the success of the PRPK's fifth congress. He further said that the enemies cannot turn the tables on the Kampuchean people. He also voiced full support to the just struggle of the Cuban people in fighting imperialism. He said he is strongly convinced that the solidarity between the parties, the governments and the peoples of Kampuchea and Cuba will be strengthened and developed with every passing day.

For his part, Juan Almeida Bosque hailed the great efforts made by the Kampuchean people in their national construction and defense [and] -- stressed that the Communist Party and the people of Cuba fully backed the Kampuchean peoples just struggle. He ascertained the Kampuchean leader that he will do everything possible to further broaden and consolidate the solidarity between the two countries.

Also present at the reception were Say Phu Thang, Politburo member, and president of the Control Commission, of the party Central Committee, and vice president of the State Council; Kong Korm, member of the party Central [Committee] -- and first deputy foreign minister and other Kampuchean officials.

On last Sunday, the delegation was also received by Hun Sen, Politburo member of the party Central Committee, premier and foreign minister, who qualified the delegations visit as a contribution to the reinforcement of friendship, solidarity and multiform cooperation between Kampuchea and Cuba.

THAI AIRCRAFT CONTINUE VIOLATIONS OF AIRSPACE

BK131348 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0401 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, 12 Dec (SPK) -- During the 1st week of the current month, Thai aircraft of the L-19, A-37, and F-5 types overflew 29 times the areas located near the Cambodia-Thailand-Laos border junction and in Preah Vihear, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Battambang, Pursat, and Koh Kong Provinces. More serious still, Thai aircraft on 4 December carried out raids above several areas in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, 5 to 10 km inside Cambodian territory.

'FRANK' DISCUSSION HELD WITH WOLFOWITZ

BK161216 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] On 16 December 1985, Paul Wolfowitz, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asia and Pacific affairs, and his party paid a courtesy call on Phoun Sipaseut, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister, and held talks with the Lao delegation led by Souban Salitthilat, deputy foreign affairs minister. The two sides discussed regional problems, bilateral relations, and other issues of mutual interest. The conversation between the host and the guest proceeded in a cordial and frank atmosphere. Mrs Theresa Tull, U.S. charge d'affaires to the LPDR, also attended the talks. Paul Wolfowitz and his party arrived in Vientiane on the afternoon of 15 December and returned home on the afternoon of 16 December 1985. Welcoming and seeing off the delegation was Souban Salitthilat and Mrs Theresa Tull together with a number of cadres concerned.

KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN RECEIVES SOCIALISTS DIPLOMATS

BK141207 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] On the afternoon of 13 December, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, received the well-wishing call of the diplomats of the fraternal socialist countries accredited to Laos on the occasion of his 65th birthday. The diplomats were from 11 countries, namely, the SRV, the PRK, the USSR, the Polish People's Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the DPRK, the Republic of Cuba, the Hungarian People's Republic, the GDR, the MPR, and the CSSR. During the courtesy call, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan thanked the diplomats for their best wishes and greetings. He also discussed with them several issues regarding national defense and socialist construction in our country and the great achievements scored by our entire party, Army, and people over the past 10 years under the clear-sighted and correct leadership of the LPDR and with the wholehearted assistance and cooperation of the fraternal socialist countries. He expressed hope that the mutual cooperation and assistance between Laos and the socialist countries will continue to bear more fruit.

On the same day, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan also received the well-wishing call of the Vietnamese experts in Laos. At the reception, the general secretary expressed profound thanks and gratitude to the Vietnamese party, state, and people for rendering sincere and wholehearted assistance and cooperation to the Lao revolution in the past as well as at present. At the same time, he expressed hope that the special militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam and among Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia will be further strengthened. On the same day, representatives of the cadres and state employees attached to the party Central Committee Office and the Office of the Council of Ministers also called on the general secretary to express their best wishes to him on the occasion of his 65th birthday.

USSR COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED 6 DECEMBER

BK110538 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 10 Dec 85

[Text] According to a TASS report from Moscow, a protocol for 1986-87 cooperation was signed between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the USSR-Laos Friendship Association and the Laos-USSR Friendship Association on 6 December in Moscow.

This document stipulates that during the 1986-87 period the friendship association's activities will be concentrated on the celebration of the 69th and 70th anniversaries of the Great October Socialist Revolution and on the 11th and 12th anniversaries of the establishment of the LPDR. These activities will also be aimed at informing public opinion in the Soviet Union and the LPDR of the implementation of the resolutions of the 27th CPSU Congress and of the 4th LPRP Congress, thus contributing to the development of Soviet-Lao friendship relations.

The Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the USSR-Laos Friendship Association will organize meetings in support of the Lao people's struggle to defend their sovereignty. They will publicize the common initiatives advanced by Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia to turn Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, good neighborliness, and mutual cooperation.

The protocol also stipulates that Lao days will be organized in Tadzhikistan SSR and Kazakhstan SSR. Soviet-Lao friendship weeks will be organized to commemorate the anniversaries of the establishment of the LPDR. Seminars on bilateral cooperation, lectures, friendship soirees, exhibitions, film shows, and other activities will be organized to enable the Soviet public to understand the history, culture, and current way of life of the Lao people and the Lao people's achievements in national economic development. According to the protocol, a delegation of the Armenian SSR will pay a visit to Laos in 1986. Another visit will be paid by a delegation of the Tadzhikistan SSR in 1987. These delegations will take part in Soviet activities at various levels in Laos. The USSR-Laos and the Laos-USSR friendship associations will encourage the people in their respective country to study the Russian and Lao languages. This protocol was signed by Vladimir Maslin, chairman of the USSR-Laos Friendship Association, and by Khamsouk Sai-gnaseng, chairman of the Laos-USSR Friendship Association, who led a Lao delegation to visit the USSR in connection with the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the LPDR.

DEFENSE MINISTER GREETES NEW GDR COUNTERPART

BK080534 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 7 Dec 85

[Congratulatory message from LPDR National Defense Minister General Khamtai Siphandon to GDR National Defense Minister General Heinz Kessler; dated 4 December]

[Text] To Comrade General Heinz Kessler, national defense minister of the GDR, Berlin: Respected comrade minister, on the occasion of your appointment as national defense minister of the GDR, on behalf of the officers and men of the LPA and in my own name, I would like to extend congratulations and best wishes to you, Comrade. Your appointment to this noble post reflects the confidence of the party, state, people, and Army of the GDR in your outstanding abilities.

On this occasion, I wish you, Comrade General, good health and new, yet greater success in carrying out your sacred cause. May the friendly relations and militant solidarity between the two peoples and two armies of Laos and the GDR be daily developed and everlasting!

[Signed] General Khamtai Siphandon, national defense minister of the LPDR

[Dated] Vientiane, 4 December 1985

ARMY ORDERS MEN TO VOTE FOR SOCIAL ACTION PARTY

BK140144 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Bangkok army commanders will order their men to vote for Social Action Party candidates in the December 26 by-election, military sources said yesterday. The commanders were called to the Army Hall on Thursday for a meeting chaired by Assistant Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Charuai Wongsayan, who issued the order in a 45-minute speech.

The order clearly described the Democrat Party as an enemy of the Armed Forces and the country which has to be prevented from winning, the sources said. Bangkok Constituency 1 takes in the military-dominated district of Dusit where Democrat candidates Gen Han Linanon and Khanin Bunsuwan yesterday launched their door-to-door campaign.

Asked to comment on the order, Gen Han said he hoped it was not true. The former Fourth Army commander said it was wrong for such an order to be issued because soldiers should not be under pressure to exercise their political rights. Gen Han said he had served the Army well and urged servicemen to exercise discretion in choosing their candidates.

The Democrat candidates went to a military barracks and to the Defence Ministry's Textile Organization, where Gen Han was warmly welcomed and promised votes by the brass.

WIWAT ON RISING PROFILE OF CHAWALIT, CLASS 5

BK141119 Bangkok WIWAT in Thai 3-10 Dec 85 pp 15-17

[Article: "Secret Order: Dissolve the Strength of Big Chiu and Chunlachomklao Army Academy Class 5"]

[Text] In mid-1981 Colonel Manun Rupkhachon said this about members of Chunlachomklao Army Academy Class 5: Class 5 members are circumspect and are more united than other classes. They rarely have ideological clashes because they come from families of similar status and they are intelligent and have a good sense of timing.

For the mass media, the fame of Class 5 members surfaced not long before the 1 April 1981 incident. At that time a daily paper reported that Colonel Loet Phungphak was assaulted by a group of youths while on his way home and alleged that the culprits were soldiers. After that, Class 5 members, of whom Col Loet is one, were much reported on, just as much as members of Class 7 who regularly were the center of news reports at that time.

After the 1 April 1981 coup, Class 7 members disappeared from public attention; Class 5 members have since dominated public attention, such as Major Generals Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, Wirot Saengsanit, Phuchong Ninkham, Amnuai Kitsuan, Loet Phungphak, Wimon Wongwanit, and San Siphon; Lieutenant General Suchinda Khraprayun; and Police Major General Bunchu Wangkanon.

A Chat Thai Party member who was asked to help lobby for amnesty for the 1 April 1981 coupists said he did not want to help the Class 7 members because they abused their power when they were in their posts, pointing out that Class 5 members have remained low key even after they have amassed influence.

General Chawalit Wongchaiyut, the Army chief of staff, is a member of Chunlachomklao Army Academy Class 1, but he enjoys the great respect of Class 5 members. He and Class 5 members played the central role in the successful suppression of the 9 September 1985 coup attempt.

The full cooperation Chawalit enjoys from Class 5 members and close association among some senior Army officers have led to rumors that there are two competing groups -- Prem-Chawalit-Class 5 composing one group, and Athit-Phichit-Class 7-class 8 composing the rival group. The Prem-Chawalit-Class 5 group has gained great political weight since the 9 September incident.

The importance of Class 5 members became even more evident when observers of military affairs pointed out possible futures for some of them. Maj Gen Itsaraphong Munphakdi, former commander of the 5th Division, has been appointed deputy commander of the 2d Army Region, and his seniority and suitability could lead to his being promoted to regional commander with the rank of lieutenant general in the near future. Lt Gen Suchinda Khraprayun, former commander of the Army Operations Department, is now an assistant Army chief of staff and has good prospects for being promoted to full general as Army chief of staff or assistant Army commander. He will retire in 1992, the same year as Gen Chawalit and Lieutenant General Phichit Kunlawanit. Major General Wimon Wongwanit has taken over as commander of the prestigious 1st Army Division in Bangkok after the 9 September incident. Maj Gen Phuchong Ninkham has retained the post of commander of the Artillery Division. Maj Gen Wirot Saengsanit is the current commander of the Antiaircraft Artillery Division. Police Maj Gen Bunchu Wangkanon, commander of the crime suppression division, was expected to become deputy commander of the Central Investigation Division in the last reshuffle but did not make it. In any event, his future in the division certainly remains very bright.

The Class 5 members and Gen Chawalit rarely give interviews, but their growth since the 1 April 1981 incident caused many political groups to feel that the balance of power has shifted. The strength and unity of the Class 5 and Gen Chawalit have continued to develop at a time when some people anticipate that the economic situation in the next 2 years could easily serve as a backdrop for the appearance of a knight on a white horse. Some senior politicians who used to be satisfied with the power balance among the groups which possess weapons now do not think this balance is possible in 1986-87.

Several embassies have begun to watch this transformation closely. Some embassies keep a detailed dossier of Major General San Siphon, commander of the eastern forces. They even have details of his eating habits. Some embassies appeared very excited when the subject of Gen Chawalit's relationship with PRC Embassy officials came up. Some embassy officials try to gather information about activities in the south of Maj Gen Wirot Saengsanit.

Outsiders may not know what is going on. But inside reports of negative nature on the group in question are more frequent these days. There have been comments about the construction companies -- Benchamat and Cho Kanchang -- about the problem of ore trading in Ranong Province, about the trading of weapons. The reports originated from the inside circle but have been expanded and become exaggerated systematically. Nobody knows who is responsible for the work.

Class 7, or the Young Turk group, had grown too fast and its core had become weak. Thus, after the incident on 1 April 1981, the group met with destruction. However, Class 5 is growing discreetly in close unity. Its name has seldom been connected with any political issues. Still, its growing activity has drawn notice in various quarters.

It is well-known that Pol Maj Gen Bunchu Wangkanon, Crime Suppression Division chief, is in charge of the case of the murder of Pridi Sutcharitkun in Phuket, and also that Col Loet Phungphak and Maj Gen Phuchong Ninkham have paid great attention to the case. Now the case is taking a new twist.

Recently Director General of the Police Department Police General Narong Mahanon revoked the order appointing investigation officials for the case. Reportedly, the police investigation officials' ruling and the decision of the Zone 8 prosecution officer not to forward the case to court as well as the involvement of Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong in the study of the case have surprised Pol Maj Gen Bunchu and his classmates.

The appointment of Air Marshal Kaset Rotchanin, deputy Air Force shief of staff and also a Class 5 member in the Air Force, as assistant commander of the Bangkok Peacekeeping Force may have strengthened the group, but it has also added to Kaset's responsibilities. Air Marshal Kan Phimanthip, assistant Air Force chief of staff for operations, another Class 5 member in the Air Force, is rumored to be appointed as a board member of the Thai International Airline Company in 1988. This would again expand his scope of responsibilities as he is already busy enough nowadays being a witness in the court trial of oil chit fund operator Mrs Chamoi Thipso.

Several Class 5 members recently refused to accept appointments in the Bangkok Metropolis Administration. Maj Gen Phuchong Ninkham also rejected his appointment as president of the board of the Express Transport Organization proposed by the Prachakon Thai Party. Steps taken by members of Class 5 are slow but sure, similar to those of Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut whom they give high respect. Anyway, the growth of the Class 5 group and Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut makes it inevitable for them to suffer shocks and knocks.

Some people in the mass media already speculate that it would not be difficult for Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to become Thailand's 17th prime minister. And certainly, a member of Class 5 could become Army commander in chief in the not too distant future. A Class 5 member in the Air Force has already been tipped as an heir to the Air Force chief.

It seems that the road ahead of Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and members of the Chunlachomklao Army Academy Class 5 is strewn with roses. Anyway, all depends on how true is the proverb "those with potential to become important political figures are always forced to end their role earlier than expected."

ARMY OFFICER DISCUSSES SELF-DEFENSE VILLAGES

BK160157 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] The Army plans to organize all villages of communist defectors as well as those along the Kampuchean border into self-development and self-defense villages within the end of next year. General Prathip Thetwisan, director of the so-called Voluntary Self-Development and Defense Center, said that there are four newly established communities of communist defectors -- three are in the northeast and the other in the north. Gen Prathip said that most of the border villages, where his center would make (?inroads) in the year ahead, were along the Kampuchean border. He said that the center had a target of organizing about 800 self-development and self-defense villages each year. Since 1975, about 7,800 villages have been incorporated into the project. According to the project, the Voluntary Self-Development and Defense Center serves as the coordinating body to streamline efforts by various principal ministries to organize village administration and self-defense system and to promote development and vocational training in the villages.

MINISTER WRITES ON 'BITTER STRUGGLE' WITH PRC

HK131430 Hong Kong AFP in English 1346 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Hanoi, Dec 13 (AFP) -- Vietnam faces a long and bitter struggle against China because of Beijing's continuing expansionist policy, Deputy Defence Minister Le Ngoc Hien has said. Border fighting, the result of China's "expansionist policy", is likely to continue for some time, General Hien said in an article published in the latest issue of the COMMUNIST REVIEW, the party's theoretical magazine. Gen Hien said that an "increase in military tension" along the two countries' common border, particularly in Northern Vietnam's Vi Xuyen area since April last year, had been deliberately planned by Beijing to "complete its multi-form war to undermine" Vietnam. Vietnam accuses China of carrying out psychological warfare, spying and infiltration in the border area.

However, Beijing lacks the power to launch a "war of general aggression" now, he said. The Vietnamese army has developed new combat methods adapted to the situation, Gen Hien added, noting that these had allowed Hanoi to recuperate some of the positions occupied by Chinese forces during their one-month war in 1979. Twenty thousand Chinese troops have been "put out of action" in the past 18 months and have since been "bogged down" at the front, he said.

TASS CITED ON KAPITSA TALKS IN BEIJING

BK140139 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] According to TASS, the exchange of views between the Soviet and Chinese Foreign Ministries on international issues ended in Beijing on 12 December. Participating in the talks on the Soviet side were Deputy Foreign Minister Kapitsa and Soviet Ambassador to China Shcherbakov; on the Chinese side were Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Chinese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Li Zewang. The next meeting between vice foreign ministers of the two countries will take place in Moscow in 1986.

PRC PROVOCATIONS IN HA TUYEN DISCUSSED

OW140803 Hanoi VNA in English 0719 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 14 -- The northern border province of Ha Tuyen, a former resistance base of the Vietnamese revolution, has over the past six years become a frontline area in the fight against China's multi-faceted war of sabotage, especially its large-scale land-grabbing activities. Ha Tuyen Province is known for the communal house in Tan Trao village which witnessed the public appearance of the provisional government which led the August revolution of 1945 to victory and later became the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

As early as 1970, China secretly sent its soldiers in civilian clothes into Vietnamese territory across the Sino-Vietnamese border in Ha Tuyen to dig up and move historical marker-posts deep inside Vietnam, abduct villagers and attack Vietnamese border guards... Faced with the danger of China's expansion, Ha Tuyen has constantly strengthened its armed forces, standing ready to fight against the intruders while continuing production work. Within a few years, the provincial armed forces have grown up many times compared with the period of anti-French resistance.

The province's careful preparations brought big victories over the Chinese invaders in February-March 1979, since China was forced to withdraw its aggressor forces from Vietnam, however, Chinese troops have continued to operate in battalion or regiment size, attacking Vietnamese villages along the Sino-Vietnamese border, and illegally occupying outposts in Ha Tuyen one day after Beijing declared to get its troops out. In the following year, China intensified its armed attacks against Ha Tuyen, particularly Xin Man district and some hamlets inhabited by ethnic minorities in the districts of Vi Xuyen, Yen Minh, Dong Van, Meo Vac and Quan Ba, and fired on Ha Qiang town. From April 1984 to August 1985, Chinese troops conducted a large-scale land-nibbling campaign, illegally occupied high hills in the districts of Yen Minh and Vi Xuyen and turned them into springboards for their expansion to the whole region. But they have met with strong resistance from Vietnamese people and armed forces who dealt them stunning blows; thousands of intruders were killed or wounded, a number of commandos were captured and a quantity of weapons seized.

National Construction

Ha Tuyen is a mountain province whose capital Tuyen Quang is about 100 miles northwest of Hanoi. Its six northernmost districts, aside from numerous difficulties caused by the enemy, are having to solve many problems: production, transport and communications, etc. The local authorities are focusing efforts on building the districts in all fields. They have given all-out assistance to Meo Vac, the remotest district in the province, to build up its economy. Eighty percent of Meo Vac's tilled lands are terraced and rock-stream fields bearing one maize crop a year. With the provincial party committee's help, Meo Vac last year became self-sufficient in food and even sold the state hundreds of tons of foods besides storing a sizeable quantity. Following Meo Vac's example, other districts in Ha Tuyen, though not favoured by nature, have become self-sufficient in food. In the rice-producing districts, per hectare yields have risen from 2-3 tons to 5 tons annually. The province's total food output (including subsidiary crops) went up from 186,000 tons in 1981 to 260,000 tons in 1984, and is expected to reach 280,000 tons this year.

MPR RADIO CONDEMNS PRC AID TO KHMER FORCES

OW111840 Hanoi VNA in English 1527 GMT 11 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 11 -- "The Chinese authorities have summoned its Khmer henchmen to Beijing not only to slash out at their inefficiency and internal division but also to beef up their morale now in utter doldrums" says the Mongolian radio in a commentary broadcast last Sunday. "In spite of lavish military aid by Beijing" the radio says "the Khmer reactionary forces have been enmired in an allround impasse, especially since their bitter military debacle in the 1984-1985 dry season". "Beijing is seeking by all ways and means to breathe life into the genocidal Pol Pot junta to oppose the advance of the Kampuchean revolution" the radio notes.

HANOI THAI ON WOLFOWITZ VISIT TO SINGAPORE

BK150718 Hanoi International Servie in Thai 1130 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Wolfowitz said at a press conference in Singapore on 11 December that the United States has no plans to dismantle its military bases in the Philippines because these bases are very important and are the strategic beachheads of the Americans.

Before that, Wolfowitz visited Thailand and made statements opposing the three Indochinese countries. During his stay in Thailand, he visited the Thai-Cambodian border and sanctuaries of the Cambodian reactionaries. Public opinion sees that the visit aims to invite the pro-American countries in the region to join in the U.S. global strategy.

TO HUU, CEMA DELEGATION DEPART FOR MOSCOW

OW131548 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 13 -- A government delegation led by To Huu, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, has left here for the special 41st session of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CEMA) to be held soon in Moscow. The delegation includes Tran Quynh, member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and Vietnam's permanent representative at CEMA; Dang Huu, alternate member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State Commission for Science and Technology, and other officials. It was seen off at the Presidential Palace by Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Vo Van Kiet, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission; Do Muoi, Political Bureau member of the Party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Hoang Tung, secretary of the party Central Committee; Vu Quang, member of the party Central Committee and head of its International Department; Hoang Bich Son, vice minister for foreign affairs, and many others. Soviet Ambassador B.N. Chaplin was also present.

USSR UNION LEADER, WRITER NOTE SUPPORT FOR SRV

OW121826 Hanoi VNA in English 1543 GMT 12 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 12 -- "The Soviet and Vietnamese peoples will always stand by each other's side even when the sky is clear or cloudy", said K.Y. Matskyavichyus, secretary of the All Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU), to Pham The Duyet, general secretary of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions. This statement was made at Pham The Duyet's meeting in Moscow yesterday with K.Y. Matskyavichyus, who is also president of the Soviet Committee for Support to Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, and Soviet writers, artists and social activists. At the meeting the Soviet writers, artists and social activists also introduced to the Vietnamese guests Soviet books, films, music pieces and paintings portraying the life and struggle of the heroic Vietnamese people. Mikhail Kotov, writer and executive member of the Soviet Peace Committee, spoke of the Vietnam these in many literary works written by well known Soviet (?writers) and poets such as K. Simonov, B. Polevoy, E. Yertushenko, and N. Tikhonov. He said that an exhibition of I. Glazunov's paintings about Vietnam was opened not only in the Soviet Union but also in many other countries.

LE DUAN, TRUONG CHINH ATTEND MINORITY CONFERENCE

BK141659 Hanoi VNA in English 1547 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 14 -- A get-together of the ethnic minority representatives was held here yesterday to review the implementation of the party and state's policy on nationalities over the past 40 years and discuss the orientation and tasks for the coming period.

It was jointly sponsored by the party Central Committee's Commission for Nationalities and the government Committee for Nationalities. More than 400 delegates representing six million people of over 50 ethnic minority nationalities throughout the country attended the get-together.

Present on the occasion were Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the party C.C. and president of the State Council, Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the party C.C. and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Huynh Tan Phat, vice president of the State Council and president of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the party C.C. and president of the Vietnam Women's Union, and representatives of various public offices.

After the opening speech by Cam Ngoan, vice-chairman of the National Assembly and of the government Committee for Nationalities, Hoang Truong Minh, member of the party and head of its Commission for Nationalities delivered a report bringing out the achievements in implementing the party and state's policy on nationalities over the past 40 years. He pointed out that people of all minority nationalities in Vietnam must strengthen the great national unity, accelerate the economic development and promote their revolutionary spirit in order to make a worthy contribution to the common revolutionary cause of building and defending the socialist Vietnam. Participants at the get-together adopted a letter to be sent to the party Central Committee and the state, expressing their determination to do their utmost to build and consolidate the great national unity.

Addressing the meeting, party General Secretary Le Duan highly [word indistinct] the Vietnamese people of various minority nationalities for their achievements over the past 40 years. He [words indistinct] promote the tradition of mutual assistance, fight and work together for the sake of love and justice. We should try harder [word or words indistinct] to become the masters of the homeland, the society, the nature and ourselves.

In his speech at the get-together, President of the State Council Truong Chinh said that people of all nationalities in Vietnam have closely united together in the fight against the French colonialists, the Japanese fascists, and the U.S imperialists for national salvation in the past and in the fight against the Chinese expansionists and their lackeys at present. He stated: "We have united, we shall unite more closely so as to win greater successes for our people today and for our future generations".

AUSTRALIAINDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOKHTAR ARRIVES

HK140954 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Sydney, Australia, Dec 14 (AFP) -- Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja today warned the Australian Government against duplicating Indonesia's efforts to end the conflict in Cambodia. "There's such a thing as too many cooks spoil the broth," Mr. Mokhtar said on his arrival for a visit to Australia, his first since 1978.

The Cambodian conflict was a very complex issue, he noted. "It is like a meal that consists of many dishes. "We fancy ourselves as being the chief cook. Now if another-cook comes along and wants to do the cooking also, then he should consult with us, so when we are doing the meat, he can prepare the vegetables."

Mr. Mokhtar indicated that Cambodia was one of several issues which he would discuss with the Australian Government during his visit. "Basically, we are going to discuss how to enhance relations, stepping up economic and trade relations," he said. Mr. Mokhtar will have two days of discussions with Foreign Minister Bill Hayden Monday and Tuesday and will also meet Prime Minister Bob Hawke and other government ministers.

The 56-year-old Harvard-educated Mr. Mokhtar put an end to speculation that his visit would see a signing of an agreement over the future of the Timor gap oil and gas fields. "I will be available for comment on the sea bed treaty if that comes up, but as of now it is being considered on a technical level by Mining Ministry officials. "It has not reached the foreign office level," he said.

Tomorrow, Mr. Mokhtar is to fly to Canberra to meet representatives of the Indonesian community before beginning official talks with Mr. Hawke on Monday.

He is due to return to Jakarta Thursday.

More Reporters Travel to Timor

BK150504 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The Indonesian foreign minister, Dr Mokhtar, has told a press conference that there is a trend for more Australian journalists to travel to Indonesia. Dr Mokhtar, speaking to reporters shortly after arriving in Australia for an official visit and talks with his counterpart Mr Hayden, also indicated that Australian journalists could be allowed into East Timor. He said there was a trend for more Australian journalists to be allowed into Indonesia and once there they could travel to East Timor, but there were problems with transportation. He told the news conference that the only way to get to the more interesting places in East Timor was by helicopter, and few journalists provided their own. Indonesian forces occupied the former Portuguese colony 10 years ago and are still facing resistance from the East Timor independence group -- Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for Independent Timor].

NEW ZEALANDLANGE COMMENTS ON U.S. PRESSURE, 'THREATS'

BK160659 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] The New Zealand prime minister, Mr Lange, has said he is not moved by United States threats to intensify pressure on New Zealand to get it to change its anti-nuclear policy. Mr Lange said that vague and unspecified threats by unnamed American officials would be ignored by New Zealand. He said New Zealand was already living with a cut of almost all defense links with the United States and loss of influence in and access to the Congress. Mr Lange said that his government's nuclear-free policy would be implemented in legislation now before Parliament although it will not become law until the middle of next year.

He emphasized that while New Zealand did not want to be defended by nuclear weapons, it wanted to remain part of the Western alliance and to preserve the ANZUS treaty with Australia and the United States. Mr Lange was reacting to the latest American move to persuade New Zealand to dump its antinuclear policy which bans visits by nuclear-armed or nuclear-powered ships to its waters. A U.S. official said that the Reagan administration had decided to tell New Zealand that defense and economic cooperation were at stake, and that a treaty meant full and not partial cooperation.

NUCLEAR DETECTION CAPABILITY IMPROVED

HK160229 Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Dec 85 p 4

[Text] New Zealand now had a better capacity to detect nuclear weapons entering New Zealand than it did in February when the visit by USS Buchanan was rejected, the Prime Minister, Mr Lange, said yesterday. He said that under the new detection system, it might now be possible for the USS Buchanan to visit.

Asked whether the Government had enhanced its ability to detect whether a vessel was nuclear-armed since the Buchanan visit was turned down, Mr Lange said: "The answer to that is, broadly, yes. But I'm not going into that. It is just completely irresponsible to go into that... If you are talking about the technique, there is no change. If you are talking about the availability of the technique, there could well be a change."

He also said the United States would be acting unconstitutionally if it declared the ANZUS treaty null and void, following the legislation. A pre-emptive veto would be inconsistent with the terms of the treaty, which had a 12-month notification withdrawal period.

Asked what New Zealand could do about that, Mr Lange said he could do nothing. He said there was no power within the ANZUS treaty for one or two partners to expel a third.

LANGE DISCUSSES DETAINMENT OF FRENCH AGENTS

HK160234 Hong Kong AFP in English 0156 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Wellington, Dec 16 (AFP) -- New Zealand might consider releasing two French agents, jailed for the bombing of Greenpeace ship, into French custody if "there are guarantees and they are going to be imprisoned" by France, Prime Minister David Lange said today. But he told a news conference that, given their 10-year sentences for manslaughter in the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior, it is "totally unrealistic to talk about them having any form of release anywhere in the near future."

"It is absolutely impossible to consider that," Mr Lange said.

Mr Lange's comment followed a question on whether it was possible for the government to do a deal with France to release the pair into a French jail. "I don't think it is but, if it were, I would take a very realistic look at it," the prime minister said. "I want to know that there are guarantees and they are going to be imprisoned."

Asked whether the issue would be a matter for talks with the French, he said: "After what I have said (in reply to questions) there is no doubt it will be, but this (comment) was not intended to be the entree for that."

LANGE SAYS FRENCH DEMANDS 'DAMPEN' TALKS

HK160836 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Wellington, Dec 16 (AFP) -- France's demand for the release of its two secret agents jailed in New Zealand was a "considerable dampener" on reparations talks between the two countries, New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange said today. Mr Lange said that France had raised the issue of the agents' release at the first two rounds of talks in New York about payment of reparations for the French sabotage, involving the two agents, of the Greenpeace ecological organisation's flagship the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour.

"That (the raising of the issue) was the end of the first round of reparations talks," Mr Lange told a news conference. And asked if the French had raised the topic at the latest round of talks last week, he replied: "Of course they did, but we are not talking about it. The brief of the New Zealand team is not to negotiate a release to freedom."

New Zealand is seeking up to 10 million dollars in damages and compensation for the July attack on the Rainbow Warrior, which left one crewman dead.

Mr Lange said that the talks had now been adjourned until the new year, but he refused to make direct comment on their progress. He added that they could continue for many months. "They may take a long time but no matter how much time or how many millions are involved, the integrity of our judicial system is worth more than that."

Mr Lange said that only if the strongest guarantees were given would New Zealand consider the pair returning to France to serve part of their sentences. When first asked whether the pair could be turned over to French authorities to serve their jail terms Mr Lange said: "You say the (New Zealand) Government can release them. What would happen then? They would go making jam and stroking whales?" Capt. Prieur has said she likes making jam for recreation, while Maj. Mafart has said he is a conservationist with a love of whales.

Mr Lange said that "from the New Zealand point of view there is no negotiation" about the return of the pair to France, despite claims by French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas that talks about their return are under way. "They will be having Christmas dinner in New Zealand and so will I. Next Christmas I suspect they will be having Christmas dinner in New Zealand and so will I," Mr Lange said. Mr Lange said he expected this to be the case until the pair were eligible for parole, which could be within five years under New Zealand law.

MARCOS ADDRESSES GRADUATING AIR FORCE CADETS

HK140718 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0255 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Address by President Ferdinand Marcos to Philippine Air Force cadets at Fernando Air Base in Lipa City, Batangas, at the cadet graduation exercise -- capitalized passages in Tagalog -- live]

[Summary from poor reception] "Major General Piccio, members of the Philippine Air Force, Minister Juan Ponce Enrile of defense, [words indistinct], Member of Parliament Manuel Collantes and his lovely wife, [passage indistinct].

"And I ask to stand up -- our distinguished candidate for vice president -- no other than the minister, Arturo Tolentino [words indistinct].

"I greet the graduates of this flying school, most especially the awardees of today's exercise. WE ARE GATHERED HERE TO GREET THE GRADUATION OF AIR CADETS OF THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE. THEY ARE THE YOUTH WHO HAVE UNDERGONE TRIALS AND TESTS IN TRAINING TO DEFEND OUR COUNTRY. THEY ARE THE NEW GENERATION OF FILIPINOS FIGHTING TOGETHER FOR THE SECURITY AND PROGRESS OF THE COUNTRY. LONG LIVE OUR GRADUATES!" [applause] They, along with the youth of Batangas and of the Philippines, will be tempered "BY THE REALITIES OF OUR TIMES. I HOPE THAT THEY, ALONG WITH THE YOUTH AND PEOPLE OF BATANGAS, EMULATING OUR HEROES, WILL UNITE IN ORDER TO UPHOLD THE REFORMS BEGUN UNDER THE NEW SOCIETY AND THE NEW REPUBLIC." "I am certain that this day will forever live in the memories of these young men seated before us. They have undergone one of the most rigorous physical, mental, and psychological training ever instituted in entire Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP]" and withstood and triumphed over the trials and endurance. The entire Filipino nation congratulates these young men on their astounding achievements.

"The continuing of the program of reforms in the military service aims not only to weed out undesirables, but most important, our program is designed to attain the highest possible level of competence and conduct required in our reformation of the AFP, from the Regional Unified Commands to the smallest long-range patrol unit." Competence and the Filipino soldier's historic position constitute the invincible winning formula of the army. Competence does not only mean studying and knowing by heart military science and tactics, but it also means "making the most out of limited resources and logistics available to us. As you very well know, ours is an archipelago of some 7,000 widely scattered islands, inhabited by people of various customs and traditions.

"As I said, ours is an armed force of limited resources, and it is to the credit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines officers and men that they make up for these limitations and constraints with ingenuity, with competence, and with initiative. I have therefore come not only to congratulate the graduates, but to congratulate the entire Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the national defense establishment." [applause] The strains of the transportation and communications networks, the growing population at the rate of 1 million a year, the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New People's Army, and the aggravating economic conditions in different regions enhance the demographic and geographic problems confronting the armed forces in its efforts to safeguard the security of the country. And to this, let us say bluntly, the combination of communist insurgents and leftist radicals have mounted a campaign "to get foreign policy makers to cut military aid to the Philippines." This is a step in their march to power.

Everyone, including those belonging to the opposition, should unite together to safeguard the national interests and strengthen the armed forces in order to combat the communist insurgency. "We are all brother Filipinos, and as brother Filipinos, it is called upon us to defend our country against all foreigners."

The Armed Forces of the Philippines has not collapsed under this immense crisis, because it has promoted a program of self-reliance, making it "less dependent on outside forces." The success of this program may be seen in the massive surrender of NPA rebels where one outstanding rebel-surrenderer revealed that the NPA has done nothing in the past several months except "eating, looting, and running away from government troops." "The Philippine Air Force has been setting the pace in this endeavor of self-reliance, such as the establishment of the (?Bicol Region land-to-land facilities) at Villamor Airbase: and others.

"In the other services, too, they are steadily minimizing our dependence in foreign supplies and equipments and logistics support." The Filipino fighting men are now devising and manufacturing their own implements to fight the insurgency problem. "I therefore appeal to all our people to participate in the counterinsurgency program, not only in the sense that they not back down because of the activities of the NPA, but that they do not (?support or extend any support) to the NPA and other subversive terrorists."

The Philippines lies in a strategic location in the Asia Pacific region with the presence of four powers, namely: The United States, the Soviet Union, China, and Japan. Therefore, it occupies an important role in maintaining peace and democracy in this part of the world and in offsetting another world war. "WE KNOW THAT OUR COUNTRY IS ESSENTIAL TO SECURITY AND DEMOCRACY IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. HOWEVER, THOSE WE THOUGHT TO BE OUR FRIENDS IN PEACE AND WAR ARE NEGLECTING AND IGNORING ASSISTANCE TO US." There is a propaganda war currently going on against us. "I appeal to all to make the coming campaign clear and free of deceit and of character assassination. We must remember that we should never invite them to participate in running the internal affairs of our country. I invoke the (?call) of Mabini, who said that the allies of the revolution must be internalized," and I ask everyone, "Let us maintain the dignity of the Filipino people and let us not curry favor with foreign and alien interests."

(?Snuggled up with) the subversive and the radical groups, some people do not understand communism. "Though it is true that the New People's Army is real, this has been vastly exaggerated by misguided partisans and ill-informed people abroad." We are "moving resolutely to extirpate this blight in our midst." We do this with your help, not only in the fight against insurgency, but "with your vote in the coming presidential snap election." You have heard enough of talk about this during this graduation, "but I notice that most of the crowd are politically oriented, and I would be remiss in my duty to [words indistinct] to the reality of the situation in the entire Philippines. We are embattled. We are endangered. There are malignancies that we must immediately extirpate." This is one of the reasons why I decided to shorten my presidency in order to have snap elections. "We must settle the question of concentrated power, in order that we can eliminate the dangers to our people." Since January, 10,000 innocent civilians have been killed by terrorists. What fault did these people have? They had none. But to demonstrate that "power comes out of the barrel of the gun," these terrorists have in most cases attacked civilian targets.

"And so we have commenced a massive reorganization of our armed forces in line with the goals of professionalizing them" and enhancing discipline and morale. The insurgents tried to establish a Marxist university in Region (?4), following, I suppose, the claim of Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, in order to embarrass him. "And we wiped out this university of the people's satellite camps in no time."

They then moved over to Kalinga-Apayao, and one of their leaders held a press conference, and we immediately recognized him, and took his camp. Wherever they went, we flushed them out, and caught and arrested the leaders. We have picked them up in Samar, in Leyte. Recently we took their training camps at Davao and in Zamboanga del Sur and Misamis Oriental.

Meanwhile, "the essential socioeconomic counterpart to military action is being pushed vigorously as the economic crisis has eased and we have again been able to pump funds into the economy as well as to the forces." I realised half a billion pesos to the Armed Forces of the Philippines, "and I intend to release another half a billion pesos before the end of the year." We have carried out various reforms and carried out infrastructural development together with political reforms in the barangays. Barangay justice is now working. "This is the basis of our confidence, that our nation will survive and prosper" because of the development of our human resources.

Marcos' Itinerary Noted

HK140502 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] President Marcos today made his first out of town campaign sortie since his proclamation as KBL standard-bearer. The president addressed today the graduation of the new pilots of the air force flying school in Lipa City, Batangas. In his speech, the president said that despite the limited resources, the armed forces continued to perform its tasks with integrity, competence, and initiative.

[Begin Marcos recording] And it is to the credit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines soldiers and men that they overcome limitations and constraints with ingenuity, competence, and initiative. I have therefore come not only to congratulate the graduates, but to congratulate the entire Armed Forces of the Philippines and the national defense establishment. [end recording]

In his speech, the president also promoted two military officers to the rank of brigadier generals. Promoted were Colonel (Telesforo Payco) and Colonel Alberto Talong, both of the Philippine Air Force.

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The president called on the Filipino for national unity and for continued support for the reform begun by the present administration.

[Begin Marcos recording in Tagalog] Let us promote the unity of Filipinos, uphold the reforms we have begun and continue our unity under a humanitarian, nationalist, and God-fearing society. [end recording]

[The first lady accompanied the president in his Batangas sortie. The first lady's itinerary was bared by Information Minister Gregorio Cendana. We have details of the president's and the first lady's itineraries in Batangas from Mars de la Cruz, Jr.

[Begin De La Cruz recording] Cendana said that the president will dedicate the Lipa City Hall, address the Regional Development Council, and [words indistinct]. The council is composed of governors and regional directors of the RPC which will submit

recommendations to government reform program in Batangas, Region 4. Cendana added that the president will discuss the development projects with provincial leaders and give a number of ideas on regional development.

The first lady, on the other hand, will be meeting collectively three groups: [passage indistinct], the Regional Information Coordinating Committee headed by Director Andres Cristobal Cruz, and the team leaders of the Ugnayan Katimugan Tagalong [Southern Tagalog Confederation].

Party leaders including Mayor Carlos [name indistinct] and governors of southern Tagalog provinces, will be on hand to welcome the KBL tandem. Cendana said that among the agenda of the president will be to discuss with ruling [word indistinct] officials is the proposed growth corridor strategy for Region 4. This involves the development of cottage industries along [word indistinct] lines in Laguna, Batangas, Cavite and other provinces. The growth corridor will also set the distribution centers for farmers' produce. The president will also discuss the establishment of a private support staff for each of the proposed integrated area's development projects in the Aurora, Marinduque, Romblon, and Quezon Provinces. [end recording]

Tomorrow, the opposition will hold the proclamation of the Aquino-Laurel ticket. The proclamation takes place at Liwasang Bonifacio and will be preceded by a noontime mass at Santo Domingo Church.

Press Conference

HK160343 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Dec 85 pp 1, 14

[Text] Fernando Air Base, Lipa City -- President Marcos told a press conference here yesterday that not only would controversial provisions of the Constitution, such as Amendment No 6, be reviewed after the Feb. 7 election, but the entire Constitution itself. The indication was that if these provisions would be found unacceptable, they would be thrown out. He also said that the controversial Presidential Detention Action (PDA) decree would be reviewed.

The President, accompanied by his running mate, Arturo Tolentino, and the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, arrived at the base at 9:40 a.m. to speak before the graduates of the Philippine Air Force Flying School. In his meeting with newsmen at the new officers club afterwards, the President declared that "heaven forbid" a decision from the Supreme Court declaring the Feb. 7 election unconstitutional, but added that if that should happen, "we would first seek a reconsideration." If the Supreme Court should turn that down, he said, "we will have to wait until 1987 for the presidential elections." Asked why he should not resign and make the election constitutional, he said there was no reason for him to do this, as he enjoyed a mandate up to 1987. He added that many leaders in the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan had advised him there was no need to hold a snap election. He denied that he called the snap election knowing it to be unconstitutional and that he did it to call attention away from the Sandiganbayan decision acquitting Armed Forces chief of staff. Gen. Fabian Ver and 25 others of involvement in the Aquino assassination. He said it was the opposition which asked for the snap election. And he denied that there is a scheme for him to withdraw at the 11th hour and let the First Lady substitute for him. He asked what the motivation for this could be: "My health? I don't intend to die in the next six years."

The President declared that his running mate, Tolentino, would not find himself, if elected vice President, occupying a "mere ceremonial post." He said he was committed to giving him duties which are not merely ceremonial, declaring that he chose Tolentino as running mate because "he is the best candidate for the vice presidency that the KBL can offer." Asked why he chose Tolentino who used to criticize him consistently while ignoring contenders who were loyal to him and the party for years, he said "it is sometimes necessary to bypass friends in the meantime in favor of political realities."

Tolentino, who was the first to call the Feb. 7 election unconstitutional, said he would withdraw from his appointment as amicus curiae in the supreme court on the ten petitions filed there contesting the constitutionality of the election. He said that to be the amicus curiae here would be a political incompatibility now that he is running. Tolentino declared that he still believes the election to be unconstitutional, but that as a lawyer, he would wait for the Supreme Court decision. Tolentino was asked about his earlier statement that 20 years as President for Mr. Marcos was enough. Why should he now ask the people to give Mr. Marcos another six years? Tolentino said that he could do that now because he would be elected as a team with Mr Marcos! "It will be Marcos-Tolentino in the administration for the next six years."

Mr. Marcos denounced the foreign hand behind the opposition bid for the presidency, charging that the opposition had sought foreign support while working with communist insurgents in its bid for political power. Asked about this foreign intervention, he said: "They don't merely intervene, but their intervention was sought." He charged that the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel), which seeks to monitor the election, was funded and organized by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). While he admitted there is no evidence here, he said that the Namfrel is close "to the people who are suspects."

Speaking before the flying school graduates, the President asked all Filipinos to help rub out insurgency: "Whatever party we belong to, we are all brother Filipinos and as brother Filipinos, it is incumbent upon us to defend our country against any danger."

He called on all those taking part in the election campaign to conduct themselves within the bounds of fair play: "In most instances, much of the misreading of our affairs have been due to what could be called a deliberate smear campaign and perhaps, a black propaganda war being waged here and abroad." "I ask everyone that we should maintain our dignity as a people and let us not try to curry favor with the foreign and alien interests in order to support our endeavor."

Declaring that some have led the way in hampering security efforts, he said: "They have foolishly bedded with the communist insurgents and leftist radicals on one hand. All because of their lust for power, they have mounted a campaign to get foreign policy makers to cut military aid to the Philippines."

On the reported statement of the opposition candidate that she has 50 advisers to help her govern the country, the President retorted that governing a country is not a joking matter. Eventually, he said, the decisions have to be made by no one else but the President. He added that there are at times decisions that have to be made on the spot. The president said that the known leftists close to the opposition candidate may have to make the decisions for her, and eventually turn the country over to the communists. He feared at the reaction of the military to such a situation, as well as to the removal of many military officers as declared by opposition leaders.

Air base authorities estimated that some 30,000 people from 32 towns in Batangas attended the ceremonies. From San Fernando Air Base, the President moved to the Lipa City Hall where he called for a high sense of patriotism for every Filipino while warning them against the use of violence, harassment, and intimidation in the election campaign.

AFP Report

HK140922 Hong Kong AFP in English 0829 GMT 14 Dec 85

[By Joel Paredes]

[Excerpts] Lipa, Philippines, Dec 14 (AFP) -- President Ferdinand Marcos today struck out on the re-election campaign trail in this opposition stronghold, accusing his rivals of seeking foreign support and working with communist rebels. Mr. Marcos also charged that Namfrel, an independent poll watchdog group seeking accreditation as the citizens arms of a government poll watchdog, was funded by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The president, on his first provincial sortie ahead of snap presidential elections scheduled for February 7, said that Namfrel was "CIA-organized and CIA-funded." He added that some of its people were "too close to some people whose identities are suspect." Namfrel is widely credited with ensuring fair balloting in May 1984 general elections.

Mr. Marcos, in power for 20 years, was asked at a news conference after a speech in the tightly-guarded Fernando Air Base here, whether he saw a "foreign hand" in the opposition's bid to dislodge him. "They don't merely intervene but their intervention was sought," he replied. No country was mentioned, but observers said he was obviously referring to the United States.

In his graduation ceremonies speech, Mr. Marcos had said his rivals "have foolishly bedded with the communist insurgents and leftist radicals." He also accused them of "mounting a campaign to get foreign policy makers to stop military aid to the Philippines."

Mr. Marcos, his wife Imelda, and running mate M.P. Arturo Tolentino, flew into this opposition bailiwick two days after a visit by opposition presidential bet Corazon Aquino and her running mate Salvador Laurel, whose family has dominated the province for decades.

Mr. Marcos minimized the threat of communist rebellion, and said the country was to be "less dependent" on outside sources of military aid. He vowed to reform the armed forces "to its highest level of competence" and to "weed out the so-called undesirables."

In the news conference, Mr. Marcos belittled Mrs. Aquino's challenge, and said he was willing to meet and engage her in a "pleasant conversation" but would not debate with her, saying: "I don't even argue with a woman."

He said his government after the elections had plans of "revising the entire Constitution" to include his controversial arrest powers and his power to issue laws by decree, but did not elaborate. His lawmaking powers, enshrined in the Constitution during the 1972-1981 martial law period and popularly known as "Amendment 6," and the preventive detention action which allows the military to arrest and detain anyone upon his orders, have been criticized here and abroad.

Mr. Marcos denied opposition claims that he controlled the Supreme Court, saying, "I cannot perceive that the Supreme Court can be used by anyone, specially the president." The opposition claims that Mr. Marcos would use the high court to scrap the snap poll to forestall an impending opposition victory, now that the divided opposition has rallied behind the widow of his slain rival Benigno Aquino as presidential candidate.

The Marcos Party arrived aboard a helicopter with two back-up choppers behind it. Hundreds of cars and buses motored from Manila, 75 kilometers (45 miles) north of here, herding mostly government employees and students to witness the graduation ceremonies. Several thousand people, mostly youths wearing ruling New Society Movement (KBL) shirts, chanted "we are for Marcos" as the incumbent walked up a stage with a slight limp to watch a song-and-dance program prior to his speech. As in previous political campaigns, Mrs. Marcos, 56, set the campaign pitch for her 68-year-old husband, singing a love song in the vernacular with air force flying instructors to the delight of the audience.

City Hall Rededication

HK160742 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0705 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Address by Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos at the ceremony to rededicate the city hall of Lipa City, Batangas Marcos speaks in Tagalog, capitalized passages in English—live]

[Text] Thank you very much to Member of Parliament Collantes and his lovely wife. I congratulate our [word indistinct] and let us applaud them. Do not worry, as we shall look into your request again. I congratulate the vice governor of Batangas, Vice Governor Pacio.

I ask our fellow cabinet members to stand up: Senior cabinet member and Minister of National Defense Juan Ponce Enrile, who was also among those considered for the vice presidential slot -- however, he unfortunately comes from Ilocos, as I do, and people might say that we Ilocanos are monopolizing it all. The next is Minister of Public Works and Highways, Minister Hipolito. Let us applaud him, for he is the one who gives us the infrastructures. He is also the one we hang should the infrastructures not reach Batangas. Minister of Agriculture Sonny Escudero [applause] -- He may be small but he is fearsome. Minister of Information Greg Cedana. The executive assistant Johnny Tuvera, to whom you address yourself if I'm not around because I am away campaigning; And your chosen and humble servant, yours truly.

I am grateful to the people of Batangas, because as Member of Parliament Collantes recalled, you have consistently extended support and votes for me, dated back to 1959 when I was a senator, then in 1965, 1969, and in the different referenda and plebiscites since 1975. The issue then was whether to allow President Marcos to rule under martial law, and you supported me. In 1981, it was the election of members to the interim Batasang Pambansa, and again you supported. Region 4 carried the most number of provinces, 11 provinces, beginning with Bulacan, Laguna, Batangas, Quezon, even up to Aurora, Cavite, Marinduque, [words indistinct], Mindoro Oriental, and Mindoro Occidental -- a total of 11 provinces. Eleven provinces and eight cities. This was the most popular, and votes won in this region equaled those in Metro Manila-- almost 4 million.

When I spoke before the Air Force cadets at Lipa Air Base, I asked to meet with the leaders and people of Batangas and not to be restricted to inside the base, so that they will not think I am ignoring them and so that they will not frown. [laughter] As my vice presidential candidate said that his nomination is a gift from heaven, I am reminded of the 1964 Nacionalista Party convention where I was surprised by my own nomination as standardbearer. Minister Tolentino is right in saying that it is destiny which selects people. Destiny, as the title of the book I wrote on the history of the Filipino people.

So, I am here to thank you for your support and to ask for your reelection. I renew my pledge that if you elect me once more to the highest and most powerful office in this country, that power will be used to pursue the programs and dreams of the country. Rest assured that the office that Minister Tolentino and I seek will not be used for personal gains, but for the welfare of the entire Filipino nation. That's why I am pleased to visit this great and historic province of Batangas, the province of Apolinario Mabini, Miguel Malvar, Claro M. Recto, Jose P. Laurel, and the numerous unknown and unsung heroes who fought for the Filipino nation.

You know that I am grateful to former Justice and Senator Jose Laurel. I had been accused of murdering my father's foe. [passage indistinct] I defended myself before the court. The judge who signed the court decision acquitting me of the murder charges was none other than the elderly Jose Laurel. I can never forget this, and to Laurel I owe my life. Even if he strays from time to time, I simply close my eyes. Sometimes I tell him to refrain from siding too much with the reds and the whites. I can only pray that the good Lord will guide us in the coming elections.

As for my rival, I feel uneasy about tangling with a woman. It is not like one's wife, like my wife, to whom I refer as my poor, plain-looking wife. [Passage indistinct] As I said at the press conference, the first two things my father taught me were: DON'T ARGUE WITH A WOMAN and never raise your hand against her. With these two, you lose from the start. I advocate NO CONFRONTATION and that was how I won over my wife. [passage indistinct]

To the opposition, I say: Let us not be subjected under the whites again, nor by the reds. We don't even know who the reds are, whereas we see the whites at every corner. [laughter] They asked me if I would agree to the whites coming over here in order to see if the elections would be clean and free. I said: Send a million over, so long as they do not vote. [laughter]

We cannot ignore the contributions of Batangas to the golden history of the Philippines -- their intense patriotism, their courageous fight for the independence of the motherland. The Batangueños have proven themselves to be model citizens of our republic. I cannot say that both Turing Tolentino and I hail from Batangas, although he has mentioned that he has some Batangas origin. However, I can say that I am ready to offer my blood for Batangas. [applause] If we are to speak of service, love, and defense of the independence and interests of the country, perhaps you can say that we share the courage and spirit of Batangueños. [applause]

I am pleased that leaders from different provinces in Region 4 are with us here today. Executives of Batangas and other provinces are also present. There are representatives from southern Tagalog region under Governor Isidro Rodriguez. Let us applaud him. [passage indistinct] Batangas has contributed much to the strengthening of our nation. We can say the same of the whole of southern Tagalog region. We remember that this region gave us Emilio Aguinaldo, Manuel L. Quezon, and Amang Rodriguez. [passage indistinct] We failed to mention a while ago that the Philippine revolution started in southern Tagalog, and the last one to surrender in the revolution, General Malvar, came from Batangas. [applause] [passage indistinct]

Here is Minister Hipolito, whom I brought along. If there is anything you need for the roads and others, he is the one we turn to. This is my instruction, and we will list the things we need. We will note down all that Batangas needs. Even though I do not hail from Batangas, do count the things other presidents gave Batangas, and compare them with those Marcos has granted you. You will surely see that Marcos has given more than all the others to Batangas. [passage indistinct]

I WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN, BEFORE YOU, not only to thank you for your support in the previous elections, but more.

There are a lot of issues involved in this coming election. Why did I choose to call snap elections? Because it is necessary to obtain a fresh mandate. At times, the presidency has been smeared, and along with it, the name of the entire Filipino nation. The Filipinos sometimes are carried away by their propaganda. For instance, my rival said that if her team wins, President Marcos will be tried before the tribunal. Well, is that how politics is in the Philippines? [passage indistinct] Do they want to start trouble even before the elections? [passage indistinct] I only ask the fuming opposition candidate not to hurl too many challenges and talk too much. A cool candidate is not a good candidate, but if we listen to her, her only reason is revenge. That is her sole motive. What about the country? Do we not face danger at the moment? Should we not focus on the dangers such as the insurgency problem?

You know, the cases in Vietnam, Cuba, Nicaragua, and El Salvador all show similar beginnings. The [word indistinct] interfered, claiming themselves to be experts in countering insurgents. In the Philippines, the rebels have surrendered twice, to Magsaysay and to me. I ask this: Have any surrendered to you? Have you been in a battle against the insurgents? If you have, let us know so that we may study your tactics and the solutions to our problems. I say: Be quiet and leave us to fight our own battles. You interfere and confuse our plans. I wish to remind you that if we do not consolidate our administration and our powers, we might suffer the same bloody incidents as in El Salvador and other places. [passage indistinct] I APPEAL TO THE PARTICIPATION OF EVERYBODY, WHETHER YOU ARE IN THE OPPOSITION OR THE MAJORITY PARTY. DON'T LET THE COMMUNISTS RUN OUR GOVERNMENT. Whatever happens, let us not allow the aliens to intervene nor be invited to run our country. This is not a habit of Batanguenos, nor will it be condoned by them. [passage indistinct]

What I tell them is: WE MUST RECOVER OUR DIGNITY AS A PEOPLE. For 350 years, we were subject to the rule of another country. We had no dignity in ourselves, and we became illiterates with no knowledge of education and of managing the country. [passage indistinct]

The day will come that you will be called upon to decide. Look, the United States and the USSR are engaged in contention. China is getting stronger, and so is Japan. The day will come when the four of them will contend with one another right here in our midst. GEOGRAPHICALLY, WE ARE IN THE CENTER OF ROUTES. All the routes -- sea, land, and air. [passage indistinct]

Friends, we have come here to show you the importance of this election. Let us not make a mockery of the elections, and think always of all its consequences. As I've said; They do not control the Batasan, and they would seek to change the leadership with former NPA's. What is to happen then? Is the NPA to run the Armed Forces? That is calling for insurrection. Let them run the government for 6 months, and the Philippines will be in shambles. They will change the cabinet and replace them with those who are either pro-white or pro-red [passage indistinct] I appeal to all the opposition to stay away from the reds and the whites, and to refrain from encouraging aliens to intervene in our affairs. Let us help our country. I pose this question to the opposition and await their answer: Are you siding with the communists? If not, why are you seeking to topple the government and hand over the powers to the communists? What is going to happen to us then? Tell us if you have alternate plans. Up to now, we have not heard their presidential candidate on their platform. At a press conference, all she could say was: No comment. This is what I call dishonesty and insincerity. [passage indistinct] Why do you ask to become the president? What are your qualifications? Because you are the wife of Aquino and Aquino died, so now you accuse the administration and you try to intervene in the Sandiganbayan trials, entering whatever testimonies you like?

The testimonies turned out to be FALSE TESTIMONIES and PERJURED TESTIMONIES. Not a few witnesses admitted that they were being paid. Therefore, they should explain their platform now. Let us see if they can accept our programs.

It is getting dark. Perhaps we will have Marcos weather. [passage indistinct] WE ASK THE OPPOSITION NOT TO USE FORCE AND VIOLENCE; NOT TO USE THE NPA in coercing the people to vote for them. I APPEAL TO THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL FILIPINOS, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE MAJORITY PARTY AND THE OPPOSITION, THAT WE SHOULD NOT USE FORCE AND VIOLENCE, NOR USE THE ELEMENTS OF FORCE IN THE MOUNTAINS, THE NPA, IN THE COMING ELECTIONS. LET US ALL WORK FOR AN HONEST AND CLEAN ELECTIONS.

Long live the Philippines! [passage indistinct]

MARCOS WARNS AGAINST CALLING OFF ELECTIONS

HK161131 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] President Ferdinand Marcos declared that a Supreme Court ruling calling off snap elections in February next year could mean instability in the country in the next 10 years. It might also lead to the cutting off of economic and military aid from the United States as well as from international financial agencies, such as the World Bank and the IMF. According to the president, it is necessary to restore the confidence of those extending aid to the country through an election. He also said that the worst consequence of not holding snap elections could be the outbreak of violence. The president reiterated the country's need to hold an election in order to resolve national issues.

KBL CLAIMS U.S. 'OPENLY' SUPPORTING OPPOSITION

HK160347 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 15 Dec 85 pp 1, 18

[Text] The ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) girded yesterday for a full-blown election campaign in the countryside by reinforcing its political machine in the regional, provincial, city, municipal, and barangay levels. Recalling the presidential election in 1953 in which the United States Government reportedly backed the candidacy of then Defense Secretary Ramon Magsaysay against incumbent President Elpidio Quirino, KBL leaders claimed that the opposition ticket is being "openly" supported by various U.S. Government agencies. Top KBL leaders added that U.S. "intervention" in the present election campaign "is very much more massive," saying that the Magsaysay case "pales in comparison."

To counter this "open U.S. intervention," the KBL is set to appoint a set of campaign managers for Luzon, the Visayas, and Mindanao, in addition to campaign managers for the country's 13 regions. A consensus among party leaders showed that Labor Minister Blas Ople would be a good campaign manager for Luzon, Speaker Nicanor Yniguez or Assistant Majority Floor Leader Arturo Pacificador for the Visayas, and Member of Parliament, and former Sen. Alejandro Almendras of Davao del Sur or Lanao del Sur Gov. Ali Dimaporo for Mindanao.

The regional managers being proposed are as follows: Region II (Cagayan Valley) -- Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile; Region IV (Southern Tagalog) -- Rizal Gov. Isidro Rodriguez or Prime Minister Cesar Virata, Region V (Bicol) -- Agriculture Minister Salvador Escudero or Masbate Gov. Emilio Espinosa; Region VI (Western Visayas) -- former Rep. Armando Gustilo for Negros Occidental area and MP Salvador Britanico for Panay; Region VII (Central Visayas) -- Negros Oriental Gov. Lorenzo Teves or Cebu Gov. Eduardo Guller; Region VIII (Eastern Visayas) -- Leyte Gov. Benjamin Romualdez for Leyte and MP Fernando Veoso for Samar; Region IX (Western Mindanao) -- MP Vicente Cerilles; Region X (Northern Mindanao) -- MP Jose Zubiri Jr. or MP Concordio Diel;

Region XI (Southern Mindanao) -- MP Manuel Garcia or Natural Resources Minister Rodolfo del Rosario; Region XII (Central Mindanao) -- Minister Simeon Datumanong or MP Camilo Cabili. The campaign managers for Region I (Ilocos), Region III (Central Luzon), and the National Capital Region (Metro Manila) are still under study.

Meanwhile, former Manila Councillor Cesar T. Lucero Jr. urged government authorities concerned to act immediately on reports that a foreign government is heavily funding certain presidential candidates in the coming special election. Lucero alleged that the teaming up of two presidential candidates was not based on noble acts of sacrifice for unity but for logistic support from a foreign country. He cited reports that a team of foreign consultants and advisers posing as businessmen and journalists have reserved a hotel's whole floor to monitor campaign activities of their candidates for the purpose of boosting their election chances and eventual victory.

TOLENTINO ON POSSIBILITY OF PROSECUTING MARCOS

HK160726 Hong Kong AFP in English 0658 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 16 (AFP) -- President Ferdinand Marcos's running mate in February's presidential election indicated today that he would prosecute any valid charges against Mr. Marcos's government if he became president. Vice-presidential candidate Arturo Tolentino, asked at a press forum whether he would protect the interests of Mr. Marcos and his "cronies" if he ever succeeded to the presidency, replied: "Everybody knows that I'm a follower of law. I will just apply the rule of law."

Pressed to say whether this meant he would prosecute members of Mr. Marcos's 20-year-old administration if there was evidence against them, he said: "That is the rule of law -- prosecution in case of valid and substantive evidence, but desistance from persecution if there is none."

No specific charges were mentioned, but observers recalled that in the National Assembly several months ago the opposition had filed impeachment proceedings against the president.

The charges included self-enrichment in public office, malversation of funds, making presidential appointments in violation of the Constitution and other so-called "high crimes." The charges were thrown out by the ruling New Society Movement (KBL) [Kilusang Bagong Liponan] majority in the assembly.

Mr. Tolentino, a known KBL maverick, said that Mr. Marcos was serious about political reforms when he announced Saturday plans to review the Constitution, including his controversial power to order arrests and make laws and decrees. "I'm the best evidence," he noted. Mr. Tolentino has opposed Mr. Marcos lawmaking power, enshrined in the Constitution during the 1972-1981 martial law period, and his preventive detention action power, which allows the military to arrest and detain anyone upon his order.

Labor Minister Blas Ople told the forum that the country would be difficult to govern if the Supreme Court stopped the February 7 election by declaring it unconstitutional. Mr. Ople was commenting on 11 pending court petitions contesting the legality of the law calling for the poll.

The petitioners, comprising private opposition MP's and private citizens, question Mr. Marcos' refusal to resign to create a vacancy so that an election may be held.

Mr. Marcos, who is seeking a new six-year mandate amid mounting criticism of his rule, submitted to the National Assembly last month a letter of resignation that becomes effective only after the election winner assumes office. "I will be afraid of the ability of President Marcos to govern effectively if the elections are cancelled," Mr Ople said.

The KBL and the opposition have agreed that the Supreme Court should rule on the petitions before December 14, when registration of voters is due to begin.

Benefits of Candidacy

HK160849 Dagupan City DZDL Radio in Tagalog 0445 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Arturo Tolentino said that his becoming President Marcos' vice presidential running mate gives him the opportunity to speak to the president on the pressing problems in the administration which need to be resolved immediately. He said at a press conference that through dialogue and cordial relations with the president, he would be able to inform the president of some issues that he may still be unaware of. Tolentino, however, did not state expressly that the president may be ignorant of the need for certain remedies in his administration. As to his own candidacy, Tolentino repeated that right up to the last minute, he never thought of being nominated due to controversial views that he held.

AQUINO, LAUREL ADDRESS MANILA CAMPAIGN RALLY

OW151131 Tokyo KYODO In English 1122 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec. 15 KYODO -- Opposition presidential standard bearer Corazon Aquino Sunday promised "sincerity" if elected and said the loss of credibility of the government of President Ferdinand Marcos has led to the worst economic crisis ever experienced in the Philippines. Mrs. Aquino, widow of assassinated opposition leader Benigno Aquino, spoke to a crowd of 15,000 cheering supporters in Plaza Bonifacio in the center of Manila late Sunday afternoon at the second opposition rally since the official campaign for the February 7 snap presidential election opened on December 11. "What can I offer you?" she said. "I can offer you my sincerity and I pledge to do my best to bring about the necessary changes we have all been fighting for." Comparing herself with Marcos, Aquino said: "I am very different from Marcos. I am not a politician, I am not a liar, I am not an exploiter, I am not a dictator -- like Marcos. I thank God I am not like him."

More than 50 opposition leaders, nearly half of them opposition members of parliament, filled up an improvised wooden stage together with Mrs. Aquino and her running mate, former Senator Salvador Laurel.

Marcos, 68, has ruled his country as president for the past 20 years. He has called an election before his current and third term expires in 1987 to seek a fresh mandate for his economic policies and country-insurgency program.

Mrs. Aquino's 30-minute campaign speech was interrupted by the crowd who chanted "Cory-Doy, Cory-Doy" and shouts of "Down with Marcos." Laurel, 57, president of the biggest opposition party United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido), agreed to run as vice president on condition Mrs. Aquino, who was nominated by another opposition coalition, would run under the Unido banner. In his speech before Mrs. Aquino addressed the crowd, Laurel called on all opposition groups to rally around the opposition presidential standard bearer. "Even if I am left behind, we (Unido) will never abandon Cory Aquino. Even if you don't vote for me, just vote for Cory," Laurel said. "We will lay down our lives and honor for the victory of Cory Aquino."

The rally, first announced before the Aquino-Laurel ticket was formed, was to have been Mrs. Aquino's proclamation rally. Opposition leaders present at Sunday's rally were all pleased at the unified opposition ticket, flashing the "laban" (fight) sign by making the letter "L" with their fingers and the thumbs-down sign for Marcos as they rose to proclaim the Aquino-Laurel team.

As a gesture of unity, Laurel, in the middle of his speech, left the podium and shook hands with opposition member of parliament and former Supreme Court Justice Cecilia Munoz-Palma with whom he had a previous disagreement on how to unify the fragmented Philippine opposition.

AFP Report

HK150926 Hong Kong AFP in English 0906 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 15 (AFP) -- Thousands of supporters of opposition presidential candidate Corazon Aquino and her running mate Salvador Laurel took to the streets here today for a festive campaign march and rally. The rally served as the formal proclamation of the opposition ticket that is to face President Ferdinand Marcos and his running mate M. P. Arturo Tolentino in a special election set for February 7.

The supporters, estimated by police at 10,000 to 15,000 marched to a central Manila park from a Roman Catholic church in nearby Quezon City where a Mass was offered for the widow of slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino. "Now I believe that God will answer our prayers," Mrs. Aquino told Mass participants who broke out in cheers and applause after the service. Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Laurel formed their joint ticket on Wednesday, when Mr. Laurel amended his candidacy papers from president to vice-president an hour before the midnight deadline for filing the documents.

Mrs. Aquino and most of her supporters wore yellow, which has been the moderate opposition's symbolic color since her husband's 1983 assassination.

Mr. Marcos's former vice-president Fernando Lopez joined her at the Mass and pledged his support. The vice-presidency has been vacant since Mr. Marcos began more than eight years of martial law in September 1972.

Meanwhile, opposition leaders today denied reports that a new rift had erupted between Mr. Laurel, who is president of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido), and a coalition supporting Mrs. Aquino's candidacy. Member of Parliament Homobono Adaza reacted to the reports that some Aquino backers were "junking" Mr. Laurel and fielding other vice-presidential bets with the statement that it was all part of a "black propaganda campaign" launched by Mr. Marcos.

"Mr. Marcos is forming wrecking crews to destroy the unification efforts of the opposition," Mr. Adaza told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Mrs. Aquino's brother-in-law, Butz Aquino, a leader of the newly-formed coalition Laban ng Bayan (People's Struggle), also denied the reports, while coalition members carried streamers hailing the Aquino-Laurel ticket.

The MALAYA newspaper today said M.P. Eva Estrada Kalaw and former Senator Jovito Salonga were being fielded by different opposition groups to contest the vice-presidency while still backing Mrs. Aquino for president. Mr. Laurel agreed to stand for vice-president after Mrs. Aquino accepted his offer that they both run under Unido, the opposition's largest party.

Aquino Attacks Marcos

HK160021 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Opposition presidential candidate Mrs Cory Aquino yesterday [15 December] attacked the alleged 2 decades of misrule by President Marcos, but failed to present an alternative program to the Marcos government. Mrs Aquino and her running mate, former Senator Salvador Laurel, took turns in attacking the administration during a rally yesterday at Liwasang Bonifacio in Manila. Highlighting the rally was the proclamation of Mrs Aquino and Laurel as the candidates of the United Democratic Organization [as heard] for the February elections.

The failure of former Senator Jovito Salonga and Eva Estrada Kalaw at the rally [as heard] raised speculations that the opposition factional rifts were far from over. Doubts about total opposition unity were also noted due to repeated appeals by both Aquino and Laurel to fellow oppositionists to forget past differences and put up a united front.

Mrs Aquino admitted that President Marcos is hard to beat, but she said she is banking on the people's support.

Meanwhile the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan [New Nationalist Alliance] will decide today whether or not to support the presidential bid of Mrs Cory Aquino. The Bayan is the umbrella of various cause-oriented organizations. Bayan policymaking member Professor Francisco Nimenza Jr. said the Bayan meeting will also try to adopt a definite stand on the snap election issue.

OPPOSITION FORMS GROUP TO SETTLE DIFFERENCES

HD131545 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 13 Dec 85 p 16

[Text] The Corazon C. Aquino-Salvador Laurel ticket for the Feb. 7 1986 presidential election, while concededly the "strongest" team the opposition can come up with, has met mixed reactions: from initial resistance to "delirious happiness."

But kinks have still to be ironed out between the two camps -- Laban ng Bayan [People's Struggle] which drafted Aquino and United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido) which Laurel heads. Both groups have yet to agree on a unified campaign strategy and a common minimum program of government, among others.

In a meeting yesterday, Laban ng Bayan agreed to form a committee to immediately meet with Mrs. Aquino to thresh out several potential points of disagreement:

- Conflicting portions of the coalition's declaration of principles and the Unido's program of government;
- Synchronization of both political organizations for campaign purposes;
- Reconciliation of conflicting petitions with the Commission on Elections (Comelec) for dominant opposition party (DOP) status; and
- Appointment of a campaign manager.

The committee is composed of Jovito Salonga, Cecilia Munoz-Palma, Teopisto Guingona, MPs Homobono Adaza (Mindanao Alliance-Misamis Oriental) and Zafiro Respicio (PDP [Pilipino Democratic Party] - Laban-Davao). They are scheduled to meet today with Mrs. Aquino. One of the sticky points in the program of government is the U.S. bases. Mrs. Aquino is for the removal of foreign bases after 1991, the year the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. military bases agreement expires, although she has set some qualifications. Laurel favors the holding of a referendum to decide the fate of the American bases.

Laban ng Bayan official Sonny Osmena told BUSINESS DAY they have no illusions about "meshing together" the coalition and Unido "but we are going into it with the interest of victory at heart." He said they are after "working unity." Salonga, for his part, said he was not consulted by Mrs. Aquino on her decision to run under the Unido banner. "I have to think about the far-reaching implications (of this decision)." He also said Laban ng Bayan had no decision on the last-minute unification and neither did the Liberal Party (Salonga wing) give its consent. Salonga pointed out that emissaries of Mrs. Aquino requested him to file his candidacy for the vice-presidency with the Comelec. He has not yet withdrawn his candidacy. MP Cecilia Munoz-Palma, BUSINESS DAY gathered, advised against Mrs. Aquino's running under Unido.

As things stand, Laban ng Bayan has to find its place in the campaign, having been left out of the picture. Assuming the opposition loses, the future of Laban ng Bayan, particularly in the local elections, will be affected since the dominant opposition party (DOP) status will necessarily be given to Unido, it being the political party under which Aquino and Laurel ran. "It (decision to run under Unido) is decidedly advantageous to us," said MP Luis Villafuerte of Unido who is also one of Laurel's advisers.

Mrs. Aquino said in yesterday's press conference it was her "personal decision" to run under Unido. "I have been given the best option to fight the Marcos regime." The last-minute teaming up of Aquino and Laurel came after heavy pressure from both families, some quarters in the opposition, including most of the Batasang Pambansa members of parliament, and sympathizers.

BAYAN SUPPORT HINGES ON AQUINO'S BASES PLATFORM

HK161353 Hong Kong AFP in English 1341 GMT 16 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 16 (AFP) -- A leftist opposition alliance today pledged to support Corazon Aquino's candidacy in the February 7 snap presidential poll if she campaigned for the removal of U.S. military bases in the Philippines. The ultra-nationalist alliance Bayan resolved after a marathon closed-door meeting of its national leaders to negotiate with Mrs. Aquino and her running mate Salvador Laurel for the inclusion of their demands, Bayan official Leandro Alejandro said.

Otherwise, the 56-man Bayan National Executive Council has decided "not to participate" in the opposition campaign to unseat President Ferdinand Marcos and his 20-year-old administration, the Bayan secretary-general said.

Among the demands are the abrogation of an agreement with the United States covering the U.S. military bases in the country, repudiation of "onerous" foreign loans and "impositions" of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Most of Bayan's member organizations, numbering over 500, campaigned for a boycott of the National Assembly elections last year, but over 80 percent of the electorate trooped to the polls which saw the opposition capture a third of the seats. Bayan sources said the nine-hour Bayan meeting today in nearby Quezon City was a "stormy" one, with several factions calling for participation and others calling for an active boycott. Mr Alejandro said the early election, called ahead of the end of Mr Marcos' term in 1987, was "a sham because it is a scheme of Mr Marcos to legitimize his dictatorial rule."

Bayan leaders openly distrust Mr Laurel, the head of the country's largest opposition party, United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido), which favors a plebiscite to determine the fate of the U.S. military installations after the expiry of the bases pact in 1991. Mrs Aquino, widow of Mr Marcos assassinated archrival Benigno Aquino, has said she preferred the removal of all foreign military bases in the Philippines. But she would not categorically state what she would do in 1991 if elected as president. President Marcos, in a campaign speech Saturday, described his challenger as a "vengeful" candidate without a program of government and who would turn over the administration to her "leftist" advisers if she won.

CARDINAL SIN ON AQUINO-LAUREL RECONCILIATION

HK141000 Hong Kong AFP in English 1611 GMT 13 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 13 (AFP) -- Philippine Roman Catholic primate Jaime Cardinal Sin today confirmed that he had helped reconcile opposition leaders Corazon Aquino and Salvador Laurel, but said that the "fateful and historic decision" to unite was theirs alone. The prelate also indicated in a speech to businessmen here that he was in favor of pushing through with the February 7 presidential election, which remains in doubt because of petitions disputing its constitutionality. Cardinal Sin denied charges that he had violated the separation of church and state by allegedly exerting pressure on the opposition presidential hopefuls to unite, saying that they had separately sought his advice several times before their decision. Mrs. Aquino, widow of slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino, and Mr. Laurel, head of the largest opposition party, were both set to run for president until they joined forces, Mr. Laurel agreeing literally at the 11th hour to run as Mrs. Aquino's vice-presidential bet.

"I told them: 'It is foolish to run if you are going to lose, so make up your mind before 12 o'clock'," the archbishop of Manila said, referring to the Wednesday midnight deadline for filing candidacy papers. The dramatic forging of the Aquino-Laurel team an hour before the deadline ended a three-cornered race that most analysts said highly favored Mr. Marcos. "I had acted as a pastor should act, not as a political leader," he said. "I was dealing with two grown-up people, so I did not make any decisions for them," he said. "They arrived at those decisions, which was to join hands and present a united front in the coming electoral exercise."

Cardinal Sin, a vocal critic of the 20-year-old Marcos government, reiterated his stand that the church must not take political stands as an institution, but that individual churchmen had the right to choose among candidates.

He said that some bishops and priests would go for Mrs. Aquino and others for Mr. Marcos, but refused to reveal his choice, saying it was "between God and me." On doubts that the election will be held, the prelate said he would await the Supreme Court's ruling on the constitutionality of the election before making his stand known.

Eleven individual and group petitioners are disputing the constitutionality of the poll, saying Mr. Marcos must step down to create a vacancy that will permit a special election before his current term ends in 1987. "There are rumors that because of the strength of the opposing party it might be cancelled," Cardinal Sin said. He said that question of pushing through with the poll was "something moral," stressing that Mr. Marcos had promised to hold it and adding: "I am just trying to insist that a leader should always be truthful to his people."

COMELEC SEEKS TO FILL VACANCIES IN BATASAN

HK131601 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 13 Dec 85 p 16

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] has urged Speaker Nicanor Yniguez of the Batasang Pambansa to certify immediately the existence of vacancies in the parliament so that the Comelec can call a special election to fill up these vacancies.

Commissioner Ramon Felipe Jr. pointed out that under the Omnibus Election Code of 1985, which was signed into law by President Marcos last Dec. 2, the time to fill up such vacancies should be synchronized with the special presidential and vice presidential polls on Feb. 7.

The Omnibus Election Code provides, among other things, that "the election of Members to fill existing vacancies in the Batasang Pambansa shall be held simultaneously with the next local election in 1986 or in the next special national election for President and Vice-President if one is held earlier."

The Comelec commissioner said Speaker Yniguez has to certify immediately to the poll body the vacancies due to the deaths of Speaker Pro Tempore Jalipada Pendatun (Maguindanao with Cotabato City, Region XII); MP Hilario B. de San Pedro (South Cotabato with Gen. Santos City, Region XI); MP Cesar Climaco (Zamboanga City, Region IX); MP Rafael Legaspi (Aklan, Region VI); and MP Venancio Yaneza (Masbate, Region V).

Felipe pointed out further that Sec. 5, Subsec. (2), Art. VII of the 1973 Constitution, which is reproduced in Sec. 22 of the same Omnibus Election Code, states that "in case a vacancy arises in the Batasang Pambansa 18 months or more before a regular election, the Commission shall call a special election to be held within 60 days after the vacancy occurs to elect the Member to serve the unexpired term." These vacancies have been existing for more than 60 days, which deprive the constituencies concerned of representation in the Batasang Pambansa at a time when history and crucial decisions are being made here in our country, the commissioner added.

Earlier, the Comelec announced that it has started reviewing the 48 certificates of candidacy filed with it so that it can weed out the "nuisance candidates." Comelec chairman Victorino A. Savellano said yesterday the commission has to disallow "nuisance candidates" to save time and money. The official election returns are from two to three pages, and too many candidates would delay the preparation of the returns, he said.

Members of the citizens' election committees would be forced to prepare longer forms. "And imagine affixing your thumbmark and signature on as many as 47 papers," Savellano said.

As of 12 midnight of Dec. 11, 29 individuals had filed certificates of candidacies for president and 19 for vice-president, according to data from the Comelec's legal department. Except for Salvador "Doy" Laurel, no one else has withdrawn his certificate as of press time yesterday.

Nuisance candidates will be determined by the commission through the criteria set in Section 69 of the Omnibus Election Code. According to this provision, the Comelec may, motu proprio or upon a verified petition of an interested party, cancel a certificate filed if: it is shown that the certificate was filed to put the election process in mockery or disrepute, or to cause confusion among the voters by false similarity with the names of the registered candidates, or by other circumstances demonstrate that the individual has no bonafide intention to run for the office stated.

SUPREME COURT ASKED TO DISMISS PETITIONS

HK131549 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 13 Dec 85 p 15

[Text] Solicitor general Estelito P. Mendoza yesterday asked the Supreme Court to dismiss 11 petitions questioning the constitutionality of Batas Pambansa Blg. 883, which calls for the snap presidential elections on Feb. 7 since the Constitution does not prohibit the Batasang Pambansa from calling a special election in anticipation of a vacancy. Mendoza also argued in a 28-page consolidated comment submitted to the court that the test on whether the resignation that President Marcos submitted to the Batasan will create a vacancy is whether there would be two presidents when the new president is elected in the Feb. 7 polls and is qualified into office. The solicitor general said that having two presidents is apparently not possible because in Marcos's resignation letter dated Nov. 11, he said he will vacate his position as soon as the snap election winner takes his oath of office. "The Office of President is vacated by the incumbent President as the newly elected President assumes office," Mendoza said, adding that there will be no gap between the end of the tenure of the incumbent President and the beginning of the term of the new president.

Mendoza submitted his comment to the court in compliance with a court order requiring him and other respondents in the petitions to submit their consolidated comment. The petitioners, including opposition members of parliament, lawyers, bar associations, opposition political parties, opposition leaders, students and plain citizens, will submit their reply to the government's comment on Monday. A hearing of the oral arguments will then be held Tuesday. In his comment, Mendoza summarized the arguments cited by the petitioners who questioned the constitutionality of BP 883:

- BP 883 calls a special election even without actual vacancy in the office of the President, in violation of Article VII, Section 9 of the Constitution, which requires that there be a vacancy before the Batasan can call an election;
- Article VII, Section 9, which provides for the holding of a special election for President when a vacancy occurs in his office and for the enactment of a law by the Batasan for such an election, precludes the Batasan from calling an election when no prior vacancy exists;
- The law cannot shorten the President's term and his resignation that will take effect after the winner is proclaimed and qualified does not create a vacancy because if the incumbent president wins, his resignation becomes moot and if he loses, he forfeits the office through election;
- BP 883 was enacted in violation of the procedure laid down in Article VII, Section 9.

-- BP 883 amends Article VII, Section 9 without following the procedure for constitutional amendment; and

-- The law changes the manner of succession as provided for in Article VII, Section 9 and as intended by the framers of that constitutional provision.

Mendoza summed up the argument of the petitioners to a single issue: Whether BP 883 violates Article VII, Section 9 because the office of the President was not vacant when the law was enacted and became effective last Dec. 3 and whether the same office will not be vacant when the elections are held on Feb 7. Mendoza said that the questioned election law was enacted "to provide the means through which the sovereign judgment of our people may be given on the policies of the government and the leadership of our country." He said the first principle declared in the constitution is that "sovereignty resides in the people and all government authority emanates from them." Mendoza said the petitions filed with court cannot but work to stifle the voice of the sovereign people."

Mendoza also pointed out that by voluntarily shortening his term of office, the incumbent President "has given new meaning to the ideal that a public office is a public trust," adding that by submitting himself to an early election, the president has "given new substance to the sovereignty of our people." Mendoza also pointed out that the present constitution contains many innovations, including the emphasis on the accountability of elective public officials. "As the most responsible elective official of the land," Mendoza said, "the president has both the right and the obligation to submit to the people the approbation of his policies even if it will result in the diminution of his term of office." Mendoza also pointed out that the calling of an election is essentially legislative in nature and that what is not prohibited by the Constitution can be provided for by the Batasan, as in the enactment of BP 883, which falls within the Batasan's legislative authority. Section 9, Article VII does not preclude the Batasan from anticipating any vacancy and providing for a special election to fill the vacancy, Mendoza said, adding that the constitutional provision is clearly intended to take care of the contingency where the vacancy occurs and the Batasan has not provided beforehand for a special election to fill such vacancy. Mendoza also pointed out that there is no question that the president can shorten his tenure of office by resignation before 1987, when his term is supposed to expire, because the constitution provides that the vacancy can be filled by electing a president and vice-president, both of whom will hold office for six years.

NAMFREL ASKS FOR DESIGNATION AS COMELEC WATCHDOG

HK140509 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0500 GMT 14 Dec 85

[Text] Namfrel [National Movement for Free Elections] Chairman Jose Concepcion has formally asked the Commission on Elections [Comelec] to designate the Namfrel as its citizen arm on a nationwide basis in the coming special presidential elections. The request was contained in a letter to Comelec Chairman Victorino Savellano. In his letter, Concepcion noted the approval of the omnibus election code with the first registration scheduled on December 21. Concepcion also pointed out the magnitude of work to be done within a short period of time available for the coming February polls. Namfrel was designated by Comelec as its citizens' arm on a nationwide basis in the 1984 Batasan polls.

VALENCIA CRITICIZES U.S. INTERVENTION IN POLLS

HK150155 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0100 GMT 15 Dec 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Excerpts] Yesterday President Marcos and his vice presidential running mate Arturo Tolentino went to Lipa City.

If you looked at your morning paper yesterday, you would see pictures of President Marcos talking to the mission sent here by the United States Senate to find out what's going on in the Philippines and to report to the Senate, with one admission, that whatever the report of this committee will say will determine in large measure how the majority in the Senate of the United States will vote on pending measures having to do with American payment of their rentals for our military bases.

Some I think are rather disappointed that President Marcos received them and made it so public that he has talked with them. The meaning is that the Americans have permission to intervene in the local elections, in the affairs of this country. What would it matter if people like me, just an ordinary citizen, were to object to this open and flagrant violation of our sovereignty, this intervention which is no longer disguised? What would it amount to if we were to [words indistinct] for our national dignity, with the president of the Philippines already receiving them? And I'm sure that the opposition are more than happy to welcome these people, the American inspectors general.

So you can see we are outraged by the prospects of having a snap election, and we would rather not have none, because it would seem that we are being utilized by the Americans, perhaps to intimidate other countries that refuse American colonization efforts. Well, in Southeast Asia, I'm sure the people are watching what is going on in the Philippines, and if what they see is what it means to be a friendly country -- the United States -- I'm sure many of them would rather not have America for a friend.

UNIDO LIKELY TO BE DOMINANT OPPOSITION PARTY

HK131553 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 13 Dec 85 p 16

[Text] The United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido) "will likely be the one" accredited as the dominant opposition party (DOP) by the Commission on Elections [Comelec], Chairman Viclorino A. Savellano told the Batasan Press Corps breakfast meeting yesterday. Some opposition parties which applied for accreditation as DOP are the Liberal Party, Laban ng Bayan [People's Struggle] Laban-PDP and others.

A Comelec-accredited DOP will have many benefits, one of which is it will have official poll watchers and representations in the Comelec. Savellano said the Comelec will, however, continue to conduct hearings on who will be accredited as DOP. A decision will be handed soon. He added that "only one" DOP will be accredited. Other groups will be "registered" parties. Savellano also said the Comelec will accredit National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) as one of the several citizens arms which will assist the Comelec in the coming special presidential polls. "But there will be others," he stressed. Other groups which applied more MOVERS, Philconsa Jaycees and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.

Aside from Savellano, other guests of the conference were Comelec Commissioners Froilan Bacungan, Ramon Felipe Jr., Mario Ortiz, Jaime Opinion, Mangutawar Guro and Quirino Marquinez. The Comelec officials said Namfrel has done a good job even with its limited resources last Batasan elections.

Felipe said the more citizen arms to be accredited by the Comelec the better. "The more guardians the better. Even the CIA-Namfrel should be accredited because it can help elections be fair and honest." Felipe said citizen arms of the Comelec should coordinate and work harmoniously with one another.

FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER CARLOS ROMULO DIES

HK150358 Hong Kong AFP in English 0347 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 15 (AFP) -- Former United Nations General Assembly President and retired Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo died here today after a lingering kidney illness, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The spokesman said Mr Romulo, 86, died at 10:15 a.m. (0215 GMT) at the state-run Kidney Foundation of the Philippines where he was confined after an operation for a blocked small intestine this week.

Mr Romulo had suffered stomach bleeding after the surgery following his confinement Monday, but was reported yesterday to be slightly improved though still in critical condition. Mr Romulo retired as foreign minister on his 85th birthday on January 14, 1984 after a brilliant career spanning six decades in journalism, education, diplomacy and public service.

Marcos Pays Tribute

HK160023 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Excerpt] President Marcos led the nation yesterday [15 December] in mourning the death of former foreign minister, General Carlos P. Romulo. The president said Gen Romulo was a beloved patriot who will never be forgotten. The president called on the Filipino people to join together in mourning the passing away of Romulo. In a press statement, the president said Romulo had shared with his people his talents and energies from his early youth. He said the country has been able to count on Romulo's statesmanship, his influence, and his counsel. For that, the president said, the Filipino people will never forget the general. The foreign minister died at 1015 yesterday at the National Kidney Foundation of the Philippines.

ARMY OFFICER KILLED BY SUSPECTED GUERRILLAS

NC151436 Paris AFP in English 1428 GMT 15 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 15 (AFP) -- A Philippine Army major, four enlisted men and a woman health worker have been killed in an ambush by suspected communist guerrillas, a military spokesman said here today. The victims had been invited to conduct a civic action project yesterday in the village near Samal town in Bataan Province west of here, but they found it deserted save for an old man who offered them a meal, he added. About a dozen suspected communist guerrillas struck as the soldiers and health workers were leaving, and fled with weapons taken from the troopers.

The dead included Major Emmanuel Jimenez, the civil relations chief of the military in the Central Luzon region which covers the ambush site. Bataan, a peninsula flanked by the South China Sea, is a strategic part of Luzon, the Philippines' main island.

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